00030457

Digitized with financial assistance from
Shri Brihad Bhartiya Samaj
on 31 October, 2019

Printed for private circulation.

THE

BURNEY PAPERS

B 1474

I.

(October 1825 to April 1826)

30457 ae

Printed by order of the Committee of the Vajirañāṇa National Library.

IT C 48

BANGKOK

1910.

Gol
959·3
Bur/Bur
30457

Extracts from

Factory Records, Straits Settlements Vols. 104, 108 and 109.

Prince of Wales Island Public Consultations.

NOTE.

The MSS. of the Burney papers relating to his Mission to Siam in 1825/6 are kept in the India Office, and through the courtesy of the Library of that Office the Vajirañāṇa National Library was allowed to take copies of them.

The Committee of the Vajirañāṇa National Library considered these papers of historical interest, and they therefore ordered the printing of them for private circulation to subscribers only.

The present instalment contains the first part of the papers, the second part is in the press, and as there are still more papers expected a last instalment may be issued with the second part or separately.

Factory Records. Straits Settlements, Vol. 104, pp. 91-104.

FORT CORNWALLIS—The 24: October 1825.

RESIDENT AT SINGAPORE.

Resident at Singapore 1st October, 1825.

To,

J. R. Cuppage Esquire
Acting Secretary to Government
Prince of Wales Island.

Sir,

I have the honor herewith to enclose copy of a letter from Mr. Gillies, and translation of one from the Prah Klang or Foreign Minister, containing the most recent information from Siam. The British Ship Caroline left Bangkok on the 27 of August at which period the Country was tranquil, and as far as I am enabled to judge the utmost anxiety seems to be evinced on the part of the Siamese Government to avoid all collision with us.

I have &c, &c.
(Signed) J. Crawfurd
Resident.

Singapore, 1st October 1825.

Enclosure 1.

Ship Caroline, at Sea
2d September 1825.

My Dear Sir,

By the return of the Caroline to Siam 20th May, I had the honor to receive your letter 2d of that month, and for the favorable manner in which you are pleased to speak of my exertions, I beg you to accept my best thanks. I beg to assure you that if I have not done much, it was not for want of inclination: with such people it is no easy matter to keep on terms of friendship, much less to effect any beneficial arrangement of any description with them, even had I the power to do so. I have, however, I am happy to say succeeded in gaining their good opinion, not only of myself personally, but of my Countrymen generally.

Since I had the honor to address you last, scarcely any thing of a political nature has come to my knowledge worth remarking. The whole of the Siamese Army was withdrawn from the Burman War early in April, to attend the Ceremony of burning the body of their late King, at the preparation and consummation of which the Government and people were so constantly engaged that they had no time to think of any thing of less importance—the chief reason given for recalling the Army was the necessity of all the great men being present at the Ceremony, where each had his part to perform, and for the Soldiers to keep order, besides which I believe there was some disturbance apprehended, the present King being by many considered an Usurper, and consequently not very popular, the festival commenced the 23d April, and continued for nine days; it was conducted with great good order and regularity, and I must add with considerable taste, and concluded without any breach of the peace. Previous to the return of the Army one of the Generals Phya Phipad, was, it is said, directed on his reaching the English Army, to put himself under the orders of the British General, which he refused to do, and which incensed the King so much that on his return he was to have lost his head which was to have been sent to the English General in a present to convince him with how much zeal the King had entered into the cause. A few days, however, after this man's return he died, and was burned next day in his own house, with all its contents. Another person, Phia Champon, Governor of a Province of that name has some time since been brought to Bangkok and put in Irons, for some insult offered to a party of the English, at which the King was much displeased, and fearing that these things might produce disagreeable consequences, he dispatched immediately Phia Cry, Phra Klang to the Second King to Head Quarters at Rangoon, to apologize for these acts of aggression, and no doubt to

make other arrangements; he was not returned when I left Bangkok. Others had been to Head Quarters before, and on their return spoke in very favorable terms of the treatment they had received and the regular manner in which every thing was conducted in the British Camp. On the 18. April four letters were received in Bangkok, Signed Hy. Burney, and addressed to Officers Commanding Stations; that Gentleman it appears was on a tour of inspection through the various Provinces taken from the Burmans, and on his return arriving at some convenient place, he wrote these letters, and entrusted them to some person of consequence, on his promising to forward them to the respective places as addressed; instead of which, however, he sent them to Bangkok where they were opened, read, and copies taken of them; their contents, however, were merely observations on the places he had seen, with direction to the respective Officers to keep on the best terms with the Siamese whenever they came in contact with them with which the King of Siam was much pleased; what became of the letters I have not heard.

For some weeks before I left Bangkok there were several reports said to have reached that place from the Seat of War, which spoke of the English and Burmans having fought several Battles, in which the former were invariably victorious, that at one of these the General in Chief of the Burmans was killed, and that the English were within 3 days march of Amarapura; these reports may in all probability allude to the same you have stated in your letter to the Phra Klang. I have heard long ago of the intended attack on Pera, and also of the refusal of the English to permit the Rajah of Ligore to pass. The latter has given great offence to the King of Siam, and which is encreased by letters received from some Dutch place, stating that the English were preparing a great Armament to take possession of the whole

Kingdom of Quedah, after which that they were to proceed to Siam, which has put the Government in a state of Alarm at first, but was subsiding when I left. I took every opportunity to contradict these reports, and assured them that the English have no such intentions, and particularly at the last interview I had with the Phra Klang, the day before I left, I expressed my hopes that he did not believe the various reports which were frequently brought to Siam unfavorable to the English, that there was no truth whatever in them, and were brought only by people who wished harm to both Countries. On the contrary that the English were most anxious to keep on the best terms of friendship with the people of Siam. The Phra Klang replied that there were many bad reports of the English brought from time to time, but that neither the King nor himself believed any of them—that he did not think the English had any intention to molest them, and that they would take good care not to given any cause of complaint—that the Forts building at Packnam were merely intended against the Malays. I also assured him that I would carry to Singapore the best account of the general good disposition of the Siamese towards the English, which I had myself experienced personally since my return to Siam, and expressed my hopes that my own behaviour and that of the other Gentlemen with me, had given him satisfaction, to which he readily assented. In requesting some concession in favor of our Trade, and particularly a remission of the Port Charges on a Ship visiting more than once in twelve months, he answered that it was the custom to charge the Duty on a Ship every time she came in, that the same was paid by the Junks, and that the King would not alter that custom. I observed to him that at the conclusion of the Burman War, the English would probably be disposed to give the King of Siam some of the conquered Districts, which might induce the King to make some alterations

favorable to their trade. After a pause, he answered that the arrangement of these matters did not belong to Merchants. I did not pursue the conversation further.

I finally requested him to have the goodness to inform me if they had any late accounts from the seat of War, that I was anxious to carry with me the latest news. He answered there was no late accounts, if there had been, he would have informed me of it before now, but requested me to inform Mr. Crawfurd, that in the mean time the King had given orders to all the Generals and Governors of Provinces, especially those bordering on the Burman Country to have everything in readiness to join the English with the whole Army of Siam, at the breaking up of the rainy season, and to prepare every possible means of transport in Boats Cattle &c. for the use of the English Army. The Phra Klang also informed me that he received accounts that morning, the 20th Ultimo, that a Ship may be daily expected from Calcutta on a Mission to the King of Siam.

It will give me much pleasure, if this information, or any thing further I can communicate to you on my arrival in Singapore should prove of any service to yourself personally, or to the cause in which you are so heartily and so strenuously engaged.

On the return of the Caroline to Bangkok, your several Presents to the Phra Klang were duly delivered all in good order, and the two Field Pieces particularly gave great satisfaction.

Herewith I beg leave to hand you the Bill of Lading and Account of Charges on the Returns amounting to Ticals *110.* for which I have taken the liberty to value upon you at sight in favor of Messrs. Morgans, Hunter & Co. in Sp: Dollars sixty seven and

sixty cents which please honor. There are also on board five pieces of round Knotty wood which came too late to be put in the Bill of Lading, but which shall be delivered with the other things—they were brought to me by the Phra Klang himself the very last moment I saw him. He speaks highly of its peculiar quality, especial in being of so hard and close a nature, that it takes a polish equal to any Marble. I have received back the Rings you had sent him which I shall have the pleasure of delivering you herewith. I believe they are quite genuine.

In the hope of seeiug you in a very few days, I remain, with much respect,

My dear Sir
Your much obliged and
Obedt. humble Servant
(Signed) JOHN GILLIES.

To
J. CRAWFURD Esqr.
Resident &c. &c. &c.
Singapore.

A true Copy
(Sd.) J. Crawfurd
Resident.

Enclosure 2. THE LETTER of Chao Pia Prah Klang, First Minister to His Majesty the King of Siam to John Crawfurd Esquire, Resident of Singapore.

I beg to acknowledge the receipt of the letter sent by you by Captain Johnson, together with a pair of Mirrors and two Brass 12 Pounders for His Majesty from the Governor General of Bengal. By this letter, it is with great satisfaction I hear that the British Troops have captured Arracan and Assam. Every thing contained in it, but particularly the various victories gained over the Burmans by the English, and the presents sent by His Excellency the Governor

Genl. of Bengal was submitted to His Majesty and gave him great satisfaction. His Majesty has accepted the presents, and has ordered me to offer his best thanks to the Governor General for them. In return he has sent for him under Captain Johnson's care, 60 Peculs of Pepper.

The *Pia Maha Jotha* had an interview with the British Chief at Martaban. From that place he marched to *Kean*, where he arrived in safety and cantoned. While at Kean he received letters from the British Commanders at Rangoon and Martaban requesting him to extirpate and harass the Burmans, but not to molest the peaceable inhabitants. He continued to do so accordingly until the death of His late Majesty, when he was obliged to return to Bangkok, for it is our custom to attend to the obsequies of so great a personage. After this grand solemnity, the rainy Season commenced, and our Army therefore could not take the field. When it is over, however, it is His Majesty's design to send the Pia Maha Jotha again to co-operate with the English against the Burmans. This will be either in October or November. As you wished us also to supply the British Commanders with Elephants, Buffaloes and Oxen, His Majesty has ordered me to direct all the Chiefs of the Western and Northern Provinces to do so if they are needed.

The Shawl, Mirrors and Corals that you had the Kindness to send me have been safely delivered, and I have the pleasure to sent you in return 35 Peculs of Pepper and 10 of Sugar as a mark of my friendship.

Bangkok,
21 . August 1825.

A True Translation,
(Signed) J. CRAWFURD,
Resident.

Straits Settlements, Vol. 104 pp. 145-147,

FORT CORNWALLIS The 5 November, 1825.

AT A COUNCIL—Present
THE HONORABLE ROBERT FULLERTON
Governor President
WILLIAM ARMSTRONG CLUBLEY Esquire
and
ROBERT IBBETSON Esquire.

READ and APPROVED the PROCEEDINGS of the 24th Ultimo.

SEPARATE.

CAPTAIN BURNEY—AGENT TO SIAM

Singapore, 10th October, 1825.

To
THE HONORABLE
ROBERT FULLERTON Esquire,
Governor &ca., &ca., &ca.

Captain Burney Agent to Siam Singapore 10th October 1825

HONORABLE SIR,

I do myself the honor to report my arrival at this settlement, and my intention to proceed towards Ligor to-morrow afternoon. Before quitting the straits of Malacca I solicit that I may be allowed to avail myself of the services of Captain Macfarquhar as an Assistant, upon a salary of 250 Dollars per Month in addition to his Regimental Allowances of a Captain:—and that Mr. Sub Assistant Surgeon Harris may be permitted to draw the same allowances of an Assistant Surgeon of the Bengal Establishment, as were before received by him when detached to Malacca from Prince of Wales Island.

Disappointed of the assistance of Lieutenant Moresby which was granted to me by the Supreme

Government, I feel anxious to secure to my future Exertions, the zealous support of Captain Macfarquhar's sound judgment and mental resources—and I hope that you will suffer me to ask, that this my solicitation may be forwarded to the Consideration of the Right Honorable the Governor General in Council with a favorable recommendation from yourself.

I have &ca.

(Signed) H. BURNEY

Envoy to the Court of Siam.

ORDERED, that a Copy of the above be transmitted for the consideration of Supreme Government.

Straits Settlements, Vol. 104, pp. 296-8.

FORT CORNWALLIS The 11 : November 1825.

THE following letter to the Governor General in Council forwarding the further Reports of Mr. Anderson, and other Correspondence is recorded.

To the Governor General in Council 9 November, 1825.

To

THE RIGHT HONORABLE
WILLIAM PITT LORD AMHERST
Governor General in Council
FORT WILLIAM.

Sir,

Our last Dispatch to your Lordship in Council in this Department is dated 2d September.

Enclosure A No. 1 to 4.

We have now the honor to enclose the further papers which have passed in respect to our proceedings arising out of the agreement made by Captain Burney with the Rajah of Ligore. From the second Report of Mr. Anderson dated the 15 September your Lordship in Council will perceive that no difficulty was found in procuring the assent of the Rajah of Perak to the terms required. In the general exposition of our views and opinions on these transactions, we beg to refer to the Minutes of our President, under date the 24 September with which we concur in opinion.

Your Lordship in Council will perceive that the only point unsettled is the payment of the 2000 Dollars required from the Rajah of Salangore to the Chief of Ligore from the extreme disinclination evinced by the former; and adverting to the circumstance that the negotiation of the claim, and not the actual recovery was the only engagement made with the latter, we have deferred enforcing the payment until favored with your Lordship's instructions on the case. Captain Burney having been furnished with Copy of the President's Minute he will

regulate his conduct thereby in the event of his finding the non payment of the above sum likely to interfere in the success of his negotiations. Your Lordship in Council will perceive by the report from Mr. Poynton, Commander of the Armed Schooner Zephyr, that Rajah Hussein has been removed from the Perak Country.

Enclosure B.

We avail ourselves of this opportunity of informing your Lordship in Council that Captain Burney left this for Bangkok on the 24th of September. The whole of the objects of his Mission, as far as they regard affairs in this neighbourhood having been so fully discussed, but little additional instructions were required. The Papers that passed previous to his departure, will be found in the Enclosures* to this Dispatch.

Enclosure C. No. 1 to 5.

We have &c.

(Signed) R. Fullerton
W. A. Clubbe
R. Ibbetson

Fort Cornwallis
The 9. November, 1825.

* The enclosures are not to be found in this vol.

Straits Settlements, Vol. 108, pp. 126-136.

FORT CORNWALLIS The 26 January 1826.

READ the following letter from Captain Burney Envoy to the Court of Siam, detailing his proceedings at Ligore.

CAPTAIN BURNEY. ENVOY to SIAM.

Ligore. 8th November 1825.

To,

The Secretary to Government
Prince of Wales Island.

Captn. Burney Envoy to Siam 8 November 1825.

Sir,

I beg leave to report my arrival at this place on the 28; Ultimo and my intended departure for Bangkok this evening. His Highness the Governor of Ligor has offered to forward a packet from me to Penang, and I conceive I may avail myself of this opportunity to communicate the following details only for the information of Government.

We left Singapore on the 12: October and after touching at Tringano during the 17th and 18th arrived here on the 28: We found His Highness and his boats had been for several days ready to proceed to Siam, but in consequence of the near approach of the adverse Monsoon and the illness of of His Highness's youngest and favorite Son, I was requested to wait here a few days. In the mean time the north-east Monsoon set in with heavy rains and the plan of His Highness's boats accompanying us was found impracticable. The Chief visited the Brig Guardian, and personally inspected her accommodations, of which he found we could not afford a portion sufficient for the use of himself and his women with their numerous attendants. For some days he appeared most unwilling to let me proceed to Siam by myself, and at the same time

unwilling to leave his sick Son, to prove the fact of whose illness he introduced me into the inner apartments of his house and shewed me the Boy suffering from a fever and attended by his Mother and other females. The chief endeavoured to persuade me to remain here for two months at the expiration of which he alleged the severity of the Monsoon would abate and admit of his Boats accompanying us, and he offered to disburse the whole expences of the Mission for those two months. On the 6th however, the Son proving much better, the chief agreed that his baggage should be taken out of his own boats and embarked on board the Guardian that I should sail this day, whether his Son continued ill or not, should within five days proceed by land, that one of his Sons, Pho Pheuk, and a Commissioner from Bangkok, Luang Woot-Akunee, should accompany me, and that in order to find accommodation for them on board the Guardian, Mr. Sub Assistant Surgeon Harris and Mr. Leal an Interpreter, a native of the Azores who has resided some years at Bangkok and whom I engaged at Singapore by the advice of Mr. Crawfurd with their two Servants should travel with His Highness by land. The chief furnishes me with letters to the king of Siam the Wang na, and several principal Officers and he is very urgent with me to contrive to prolong as much as possible our passage to Bangkok, so that we may not reach it many days before him. This however will be impossible as his journey he states, will occupy from thirty to five and thirty days.

I learn that His Highness left Kedah the moment he heard of my departure from Penang that whilst at Kangar he received the Honorable the Governors letter transmitting copies of Mr. Anderson's Agreements with the Chiefs of Perak and Salengore that he had arrived here about 16 days before us, and that during his passage across the

country, via Merdelong he lost many of his followers by the Cholera, among others his principal Interpreter Che Hat.

Khun Aksoon arrived here on the 2d Instant with letters from Penang of the 12th Ultimo and His Highness has received intelligence from Chimpohun of the arrival of Mr. Maingy on the opposite Coast and of the new Governor of that place, Pya Kray, having forwarded to Bangkok some of His Highness's followers, who had accompanied Mr. Maingy.

His Highness has treated us with much kindness and hospitality but I am sorry to report that means had been taken to poison his mind against me. He shewed me a paper purporting to be a report made to him of conversations held by some of his Messengers to Penang with the King of Kedah in which document I am charged with having no other object in visiting his Country, than to collect the necessary information respecting its state and condition to enable the British Government to attack it. That His Highness believed this mischievous tale I was early convinced from finding none but Siamese near us, and from seeing no Malays and but a few Chinese in any part of the town or fort, and I have since learnt, that on the day of our arrival all such persons, as might be disposed to give us any intelligence, were ordered into the Country. There is however nothing to be told in addition to what Mr. Crawfurd has collected apparently from a very correct source, and included in his "Memoir to accompany a Chart of the East and West Coast of the Gulf of Siam." The Chief retains in his own hands every particle of power and personally conducts the most trifling details, He has a *Tan Belat* or Binda-hara, but no Yokobat or other Officer as at Poongah. The Office of Belat is said to be a sinecure excepting when the Chief leaves the Country, at which times that Minister and

two or three other persons are formed into a Commission of Government. His Highness's Wife a first Cousin of the present King of Siam, is said to possess much influence over the Chief and to be principally consulted by him. There are three or four Commissioners sent to His Highness from Bangkok as a kind of Assessors but he seems to treat them with very little consideration.

The town stands on a very extensive plain, which appears to reach to the great central range of Mountains and is covered with Paddy cultivation, I am told, in the interior, and some view (*sic*) are collected. But the Tin mines are much neglected and said to be exhausted. We have been shown some old brick foundations alleged to be the site of the Dutch Factory. There appears to be no direct trade with China, Cochin China or other Foreign port. What little trade there is, is with Siam and it is entirely engrossed by the Chief. There is not a single brick dwelling house in the town, but a great many temples and pyramids of that material, and most of them in ruins. The Chiefs house is of plank with a tiled roof: it is situate within the fort, which consists of an old high Wall in a most delapidated condition, and without a gun mounted in any part within or upon it. Indeed, I have seen scarcely a musket here, and presume that the Chief has sent the whole of his Military means to Kedah. The number of Women also far exceeds the proportion of men. Most of the latter are said to be in the interior attending to cultivation, but I have reason to believe that His Highness has left many of them with his Boats on the other coast.

The above short description of this place may perhaps serve to convince Government, as I have here been convinced, that the Kingdom of Kedah is a much more valuable and desirable possession to His Highness of Ligor than what has been generally imagined.

It may be satisfactory to the King of Kedah to learn that I have seen his Son Tuankoo Eacoob and four of his Nephews Tuanku Mahomed Saut, Mahomed Legeb, Mahomed Ibisat and Abdulrahaman, who do not appear to be ill treated, and who replied to my enquiries that the rest of the Kedah family are well, and that none of them required any thing which we had not the means to offer to them.

I may state here, that the political condition of Tringano appeared to me precisely such as Mr. Cracroft the Acting Resident of Malacca had before described it to me, although I found the Rajah in the last stage of one addicted to Opium smoking and his territory by no measure so respectable or populous as it had once been been, and as very late writers even led me to expect. Cultivation must have decreased very much of late years, whilst most of its trade has been diverted to Singapore.

Several persons declared that the population has decreased to 10 or 12,000 Souls, and that even these are dependent on the Siamese ports to the Northward for supplies of grain.

I learnt that Kalantan was originally a colony from Tringano to which it was long subject and that upon a change of dynasty in the former, it threw off its dependence and turned towards Siam for support. The present year is the period for both of those states to transmit the Boonga Mas to Siam through Singora and Ligore respectively.

We found lying in Tringano roads the King of Siam's Ship, from the Commander of which we learnt that intelligence had lately been brought to this Coast of an English Armament being equipped at Singapore destined to attack Bangkok. The late reinforcement of Troops to that Settlement probably gave rise to this intelligence.

We had no difficulty in making this port excepting what proceeded from light westerly winds and a strong easterly current and we anticipate no difficulty in departing again although from the high swell and surf which are raised whenever the northerly winds blow strong and the shoal at the head of Tantalam island, it is evident that these roads are not safe for a ship during the height of the North East Monsoon. The Brig is lying in 3 fathoms about 2½ miles from the mouth of the Ta-wang river, which is a little to the Northward of that of the Ligor: the two rivers join a few miles Inland and the latter is now little rised (*sic*). The anchorage ground is soft mud throughout and His Highness's boats have already taken shelter within the river.

I have &ca.

(Signed) H. BURNEY,

Envoy to the Court of Siam.

Straits Settlements, Vol. 108 pp. 137-138,

FORT CORNWALLIS The 26 January 1826.

THE ACTING PRESIDENT lays before the Board the following Translation of a letter from the Chow Pya of Ligore to the Governor.

CHOW PYA OF LIGORE.

CHOW PYA of LIGORE 25: January 1826.

TRANSLATION

of a letter from the Chow Pya of Ligore to the Honble. Robert Fullerton Esquire Governor of Pulo Penang.

(After Compliments)

Having had a friendly meeting with Captain Burney and in conformity to his wishes, I agreed to assist in conveying him to the Capital, but when he arrived at Ligore my Son was extremely unwell, being aware however that Captain Burney had never visited the Capital, I consulted with him and sent another of my Sons on board his Ship to accompany him. I shall also proceed overland without delay and arrive at the same time with Captain Burney, when we will consider how friendship with the English may be prolonged and increased. When Captain Burney returns, he will make known to my friend all particulars and shew him that he has experienced kindness.

Moreover, when Captain Burney was at Ligore, some Siamese caught an Animal in the woods which is called a wild Goat, which Captain Burney having seen, he informed me that the Governor General is very desirous of seeing extraordinary Animals and that species of Goat was not in Bengal he also mentioned that if it were sent to Bengal the Governor General would be amused with it. I accordingly send the Goat to my friend and request he will kindly receive it and the accompanying letter to the address

of the Governor General of Bengal and forward them. so that he may see a rare Animal from Siam when my friend has forwarded it I request he will send a reply in order that I may know.

Dated 5: of Jemadilawal Year 1241 or 15 Decr. 1825.

Penang
25 Jany. 1826.

A true Translation

(Signed) JOHN ANDERSON,
Malay Transr. to Govt.

Straits Settlements, Vol. 108, pp. 233-234.

FORT CORNWALLS The 2: February 1826.

THE ACTING PRESIDENT lays before the Board the following Letter to the Chow Pya of Ligore and one from the Rajah of Perak.

TO THE CHOW PYA of LIGORE.

TO THE CHOW PYA of LIGORE 30: January 1826.

DRAFT of a letter from the Honble. W. A. Clubley Esquire to the Chow Pya of Ligore.

My friends letter to be addressed of the Honble. the Governor, accompanying a packet for the Right Honorable the Governor General has been duly received, and in the temporary absence of the Governor, I lose no time in replying to it. My friend's attentions to Captain Burney at Ligore and the intention which he expresses of accompanying that Officer to Bangkok are extremely gratifying as evincing a disposition to prolong a friendly understanding between the British and Siamese Governments and I trust that thro' my friend's Mediation at the Capital a permanent friendship may be established and connected.

The Animal which my friend sends as a present to the Right Honorable the Governor General was duly received and has been forwarded to Bengal.

(Signed) W. A. CLUBLEY

Penang
30: January 1826.

Factory Records. Straits Settlements, Vol. 108, pp. 155-156.

FORT CORNWALLIS The 2: February 1826.

AT A COUNCIL—Present
WILLIAM ARMSTRONG CLUBLEY Esquire
and
ROBERT IBBETSON Esquire.

The Honorable the Governor having proceeded to Tenasserim on the Public Service.

READ and APPROVED the PROCEEDINGS of the 26: Ultimo.

PUBLIC.

ACTING RESIDENT at SINGAPORE.

To,

W. S. Cracroft, Esquire
Secretary to the Government
Prince of Wales Island.

Actg. Resident at Singapore 10: January, 1826.

Sir,

I have the honor to forward by this opportunity a letter from Captain Burney to the address of the Honorable the Governor, which was received by me yesterday—this dispatch as will be perceived by the 38: Paragraph came under a flying Seal and the envelope I regret to add has by some unaccountable accident been mislaid.

The Packet and letters received from your Government to the addresss of the Envoy at Siam and the receipt of which I had the honor to acknowledge on the 2: ultimo will be forwarded by the Ship Hunter at present at this Port bound to Siam, and whither it is expected she will proceed in the course of a few days. This is the conveyance that has presented itself since their receipt.

I have the honor to be
&ca. &ca. &ca.
(Signed) S. G. Bonham,
Acting Resident.

Singapore
10 January 1826.

Factory Records, Straits Settlements, Vol. 108, pp. 157-232.

ENVOY at the COURT of SIAM.

Bangkok 22 December 1825.

To

THE HONBLE. R. FULLERTON Esquire
Governor &ca., &ca., &ca.
of Prince of Wales Island.

ENVOY at the COURT of SIAM 22 December 1825.

HONBLE. SIR,

I do myself the honor to transmit to you my first report from this Capital, where I arrived on the 4 Instant and where hitherto my reception has been very satisfactory.

2. Pursuant to the arrangement reported in my dispatch of the 8 Ultimo, the Governor of Ligore's Son and followers came on board the Brig Guardian late on the evening of that day, when we put to sea. Pho. Phenk and Kha. Luang Woot Aknee came attended by 27 men, 12 of whom we were obliged to send back to Ligore, and notwithstanding all my previous cautions they brought with them several Articles of provisions objectionable to my Mahometan Escort and Servants. I had however much cause to feel gratitude to you for having permitted Captain Macfarquhar and Sepoys from my own Regiment to accompany me: not a single quarrel occurred during the whole voyage between the men of the Escort and their Siamese fellow passengers.

3. We experienced much difficulty in beating against the North-East Monsoon towards the head of the Gulf of Siam, and in spite of every exertion kept sight of the Western Coast until we made Puchpuri or Phreepri hills on the 17th. Three days after we succeeded in Anchoring off the Bar of the Menam River, when I immediately dispatched a letter to the Chief of Paknam Village reporting our arrival, and enclosing an open packet

to the address of Chaw Pya Prah Klang. This packet contained an address to the Prah-Klang, describing very distinctly the object of my mission with a copy of my credentials, a list of the Crew people and Warlike Stores on board the Guardian and a particular account of the Presents, which I had brought for the King, the Wang-na and the Prah-Klang himself and to avoid as much as possible the interference of Native Christians at Bangkok, these papers were all written in the Siamese language, in which I had them carefully prepared during the voyage.

4. On the 21st a Pilot and 2 Interpreters from the Capital came on board, and, as they had at first declared, the Brig although drawing only 11 feet water could not cross the Bar before the height of the Spring tides on the 26th on which day we passed over finding only 11½ feet water at the Bar. Between that and the mouth of the river a distance of 8 or 9 miles, the Vessel was taken for the most part, and during the night tides only, through the mud with a Quarter less 2 fathoms of Water. We anchored off Paknam fort and village on the 28th, when a requisition was immediately made for the Vessel to land and deposit her guns. I had previously learned from Mr. Hunter, a member of the firm of Messrs. Morgans Hunter & Co. of Singapore, who has been residing here for the last 15 months and who was permitted by the Prah Klang to come down and visit us whilst off the Bar, that the Commander of the King of Siam's ship had transmitted from Tringano the report which we had heard there, of an English Armament preparing at Singapore destined to attack Bangkok—that this report had excited a strong sensation at the Capital, and had led to the forts of Paknam and Paklaat being repaired and strengthened, and that very peremptory orders had been sent by the Court to the Chief of Paknam to insist upon the

delivery of our guns and to receive no excuse. Luang Packdee Sumbat also, an officer belonging to the Governor of Ligor, who had been deputed to Bangkok from Kedah with a report of the Agreement which that Chief had concluded with me, and who had come down to meet me off the Bar, represented that the present King prided himself much on an inflexible adherence to his word, and that having once ordered the guns to be landed, he would never cancel his order. I resisted the demand however and Luang Packdee Sumbat became the bearer of several messages between the Prah-Klang and myself until the 3d when the Luang returned with a report that the Prah-Klang had at length been forced to submit the matter to the King himself who had been pleased to declare, that as the present Mission from the Governor General of Bengal was charged with very important and gratifying communications he saw no objection to the Brig being allowed to pass up to Bangkok with her six guns. I suspected at the time, and have since had reason to believe, that the discussion respecting the Guns was purposely protracted. The Chief of Ligores friends at the Capital were anxious that I should not arrive there long before his Highness, and the Prah-Klang had no objection to a little delay so that the house which he was building for the accommodation of the Mission might be completed. I did not regret the discussion having taken place, as it gave me an opportunity of early assuming a high tone, and of assuring the Siamese Ministers that the British Government was not courting an alliance with Siam. The last message I sent to the Prah-Klang stated, that if he did not supply me with Boats or permit the Brig to pass up to Bangkok with her Guns within 24 hours, I should take into consideration the propriety of withdrawing the Mission altogether.

5. Whilst at Paknam the chief twice invited me on shore, but I judged it prudent to remain on board

stating in excuse, that my visiting the Fort would give malicious persons an opportunity of saying that I had gone there for the purpose only of examining the state of its fortifications, and that, at any rate, I could not visit the Chief of Paknam until I ascertained whether his Court would admit me to the Capital. The Commander of the Guardian went on shore one day, and was taken to the Chief within the fort. He returned with no favorable account of the manners or appearance of the Chief, nor of the state of the Works. The person who was Chief at Paknam at the time of Mr. Crawfurd's Mission is dead, and the present Chief, named Pya Semut-thuk-pri-Kan, or Pya Paknam was formerly the Belat or Deputy. He is described as a low brid, coarse character, particularly avaricious.

6. Early on the 4 Instant, the Brig proceeded up the river, and at 12 o'clock anchored off Mooung Mai, or Mooung Lakhan Kheun Khun, opposite a fort named in some Charts, "Pegu Fort." Here we were met by a deputation from the Capital, consisting of Prah Racon, the Prah-Klang's second deputy Jose Pediada the Captain of the Port, or Master Attendant, Beneditto, another Native Christian, and the Wang-na's Master Attendant, and several inferior Officers, with a fleet of 8 or 9 large state-Boats, which had been deputed to receive charge of the Right Honorable the Governor General's letter to the King of Siam. The boat which was to convey the letter much resembled the representations given in Chaumonts and La Loubere's works of the Boats that had received the letters from the King of France, and the cup in which the letter was to be placed although mean-looking, being of a species of red wood with lozenges of Mother of Pearl, was the same, I was assured, as that in which the Emperor of China and King of Cochin China's letters are received. The Boat had 48 Paddles—it was preceeded by two boats with streamers flying, and a band of music playing in each and

the crews of these three boats were all dressed in Scarlet. I took care to deliver the Governor General's letter with all possible parade. The Escort presented arms to it, whilst the Drum and Fife struck up, and the Brig fired a salute of 19 guns.

7. One of the other state boats was offered to me, in the event of my desiring to precede the Brig, which I was extremely anxious to do, as I had heard that two dispatches to my address had arrived at Bangkok from Mr Maingy the Commissioner of Mergui and Tavoy. Accompanied therefore by Captain Macfarquhar and Jose Pediada, I left the Brig at 1 o'Clock we did not reach Bangkok until 8 o'Clock at night. We were taken to the house of the Prah-Klang, who, after some enquiries, stated that as the house intended for the accommodation of the Mission was not completed, he had requested Mr Hunter to accommodate me in his house to which I had previously been kindly envited by Mr Hunter himself, and to which I was soon after shewn. Shortly after I had retired the Prah-Klang sent me a sealed dispatch that had arrived at Bangkok three or four days before from Mr. Maingy. It was dated Mergui 8 October and it had been given in charge to Ny Tuan and some other Servants of the Governor of Ligor who had accompanied Mr Maingy from Kedah. These Men, I learnt, had been dispatched from Mergui with Prah Tha-se and 8 or 9 Siamese prisoners, whom Mr. Maingy released. They had come via Pakehan to Chimpoun, where they seperated Ny Tuan and one or two others went down to Ligor, and the remainder came up to Bangkok with my letter, and another addressed to the Prah-Klang. Having learned through a private source, that another dispatch from Mr Maingy had reached Bangkok some days before my arrival and that it had been opened and its contents translated and read, I enquired

for the same, and when the Officers of the Prah-Klang denied all knowledge of it, I was obliged to pretend, from an unwillingness to endanger my secret informant, that the dispatch that had been delivered to me alluded to another, which having been transmitted some days before must of course have arrived. At length the Dispatch in question was brought to me Open, with an excuse from the Prah-Klang, that believing the letter might have come from a Burmese, it had been opened. This dispatch was dated Tavoy, 3 November and I learnt that the persons by whom Mr. Maingy had forwarded it, had been detained by Pya Maha Ayothia, and the letter only sent down to Bangkok.

8. On the afternoon of the following day the 5 December, I had a long conference with the Prah-Klang, who referring to a Siamese translation of the Governor General's letter which I had given in, interrogated me much and had several of my answers written down, as to the situation and particular names, which the Siamese language often appears incapable of expressing accurately, of the different Burmese towns captured by our Troops. He appeared very incredulous on the subject of our successes, which he conceived were only temporary and treated the probability of our Army reaching the Capital of Ava, or of our forcing the Burmese to acknowledge our superiority as delusive expectations. I now delivered to him the letters from yourself, Mr. Secretary Swinton and Mr. Crawfurd with a Siamese translation of Mr. Swinton's letter. When the Prah Klang understood what this last paper was, he asked how it was possible for me to have that translation made seeing that Mr. Swinton's letter was sealed. I replied that a copy of the letter had been furnished to me,and I took this opportunity of informing the Siamese Minister that I could never venture to break the Seal of his or any other

person's letter, and that in England we take the liberty of hanging a man who commits such an act. He looked grave, and began some excuses for having opened the dispatch before mentioned from Mr. Maingy when I stopped him short, by stating that fortunately I had nothing in my letters which I could wish to conceal from the Siamese Court, to improve and cement friendship with which is the only object of my Mission and that as it was a very great outrage to open the Dispatches of an Envoy, such a proceeding having been decided in Europe to be contrary to the laws of Nations. I should take particular care to report to my Government that he had opened my letter entirely through a mistake, supposing, as he had told me he did, that it was a Burmese Document. I hope this mode of communicating my sentiments made some impression on the mind of the Minister, as on the 8th he forwarded to me immediately on its arrival a third dispatch from Mr. Maingy dated Tavoy 18th November. This dispatch was given in charge to some followers of a Siamese Chief at Chaiyok or Kiaoc, who forwarded it to Pya Maha Ayothia at Camburi or Cambuli, whence it was sent down to Bangkok with another letter addressed by Mr. Maingy to the Prah-Klang.

At the above conference also, the Minister having asked me the purport of Mr. Maingy's dispatches I stated that they related entirely to the cruel and unjustifiable conduct of the subordinate Siamese Officers, who had invaded the Districts of Tavoy and Mergui after they had fallen into the possession of the English, and had burnt and destroyed many villages and carried away as prisoners many of the Burmese inhabitants who are by right English subjects, and whose immediate release I was bound to demand. The Minister observed that many of these Burmese, as he had learned, having friends and relatives at Bangkok and other parts of the Siamese territories, had voluntarily come over to them when

the English took possession of Mergui and Tavoy. I pointed out to him, that such a statement could not be reconciled with what Mr. Maingy reports of many Burmese Towns and Villages having been plundered and burnt, hundreds of their inhabitants having fled into Mergui and Tavoy in the greatest state of distress and misery and that I possessed copies of Major Frith's reports as to the conduct of the Pya of Chimpohun which was most outrageous and which would probably have brought on a war between the English and Siamese Nations, if the Governor General had not been satisfied that the Court of Siam would attend to a proper representation from our Officers against that Pya. I stated that Mr. Maingy had released 10 of the Siamese who had been seized and confined at Mergui when making an unjustifiable incursion into the Burmese territories in our possession that the remaining Siamese captives were treated with every indulgence, and that Mr. Maingy would release the whole of those also, the moment the Burmese captives were returned. I further stated, that the Governor General had ordered me to apprize the Siamese Court, that upon the Burmese, who had been seized in the Provinces of Martaban, Tavoy and Mergui since they fell into our possession, being released, not only the Siamese Prisoners at Mergui, but all such other Siamese as the Burmese had formerly seized, would have free liberty to return to their former homes, and I added that I had learned from the Pya of Pungah, when visiting him in the beginning of this year, that no less than 5000 Souls had been carried away by the Burmese from Junkceylon alone in the year 1809. I pressed the subject with many other Arguments upon the attention of the Prah-Klang until I could see that he was much vexed and embarrassed. He was unable to give me any other answer than that the King his Master had entirely disapproved of the proceedings of the Chief of Chimpohun, who was still in confinement in the Palace,

and that we should have an opportunity of again discussing the subject.

9. On the following day the 6: December finding that the whole Court was employed in translating and comparing the different translations of the letters which I had brought, and that the Mission could not enter upon business until the Presents for His Majesty were delivered, I returned to the Bay at Mooung Lakhon Kheun Khun, leaving Captain Macfarquhar at Bangkok. My return to the Vessel gave me an opportunity of seeing more of the Menam, which is certainly one of the finest streams in the world. The Brig in working up, repeatedly came so close to the bank as to force the branches of trees into the Stern Windows, and to excite much alarm that she would ground, if the lead had not shewn 5, 6 and 7 fathoms of water. With the exception of only one part, where a bank has been formed by the old Dutch Factory (Fort Amsterdam) having fallen into the stream, the Navigation from Paknam to Bangkok is free from all danger or difficulty. The Map of the river given in Kempfer's History of Japan appears extremely correct. Yet there is one remarkable feature which that Map does not exhibit, but which is said to have always existed. It is a channel by which a small boat can pass in five Minutes from one part of the river to another, and by which a distance of at least 10 or 12 Miles is saved. This passage is called Pak-laat, and the Siamese are said to be desirous of concealing its existence from the Knowledge of Europeans. Its lower entrance is a little above Pegu fort on the right bank of the stream and the portion of the river it cuts off may be readily seen in Kempfer's Map at the place marked "Buffaloes Field." About half way the passage is intersected by a Brick Wall, over which a small boat may be easily drawn, and the Commander of the Guardian had no difficulty

in passing over it in his jolly boat. The passage is not enlarged, and the Wall is placed within it, because the sea during the South-West Monsoon would flow up the Bangkok and deprive the inhabitants of fresh water.

10. At Paknam since Mr. Crawfurd's Mission the fort on the left bank has been much enlarged —immediately opposite to it another fort has been built on the right bank and between these two, about 100 yards from the right bank, a half-Moon battery of about 40 Guns in two tiers has been constructed in the river. The channel between the river fort and that on the right bank has been shut up to all but boats of the smallest size by stones thrown into it. All these forts were recently repaired when the report of our hostile preparations at Singapore Arrived at Bangkok and the Guns of every Chinese Junk or other native Vessel were put into requisition and mounted within them. The river fort is constructed upon a foundation of loose stones, and the action of the stream has once or twice thrown down portions of the work, & promises soon to throw the whole down. I need scarcely state, that all these forts are too insignificant to stand for a moment the attack of a European power. About 8 or 9 Miles above Paknam, the defences appear more respectable. That on the left bank is sometimes called the Pegu fort but I learn that it is garrisoned by men from Laos, and that it is usually called here the Lao Fort. There is another extensive Work on the right bank, having at one point three tiers of Guns. The latter is surrounded by a large Village which was called Mooung Mai or new Town but lately named named Mooung Lakhon Kheun Khun. The inhabitants of the Village and immediately around it are said to amount to 10,000 Souls, and to be for the most part Peguers, who have emigrated from the Burmese dominions. Paknam is

immediately under the jurisdiction of the Prah-Klang, and the Forts at Paklaat, under that of the Wangna. The Governor of Mooung Lakhon Kheun Khun is the Chow Pya Maha Ayothia, who was negotiating in the beginning of the year with Colonel Smith at Martaban and who is now gone again in that direction with an Army of Pegu Emigrants.

11. I returned with the Brig to Bangkok on the morning of the 10th Instant, and took possession of the house and Offices which have been constructed for the Mission. Although from the haste with which these buildings were put up and the unskilfulness of Siamese Artificers, our house is not very comfortable, still the situation is open, and not so immediately under the *surveillance* of the Prah-Klang, as that which Mr. Crawfurd occupied being higher up the river, near the Christian Campong. And I am assured that the Siamese consider the very circumstance of building a new house for us, as a greater compliment than if they had assigned a house of Gold for our accommodation.

12. During my absence Captn. Macfarquhar gathered from the Portuguese Consul and other sources that the Envoys who had lately been here from Cochin China, were admitted with their boats into the royal presence, and that we should experience the utmost difficulty in persuading the Court to release the Burmese prisoners taken in the districts of Tavoy and Mergui. Upon further enquiry I found, that the very expression, "going to catch Burmahs," used by the Siamese when their Armies are sent towards the Burmese frontiers, strikingly illustrates their idea of Warfare—that prisoners thus made are employed, as we employ convicts, being mostly put in irons and allotted to Public Officers who have an interest in retaining them, or employed on Public works—that the forts

at Paknam and Paklaat were built and again all lately repaired as I have before mentioned by these Burmese prisoners and that whenever an additional number of hands is required at the Capital to complete any public work with expedition, as was recently required for the preparations of the late Kings funeral, an order is sent into the interior for an additional party to be sent in. The labour of these prisoners is much more available than that of lazy Siamese subjects and hence their value is considered as much greater than that of the Siamese Captives in our hands. Besides it has been said here, I learnt, if the return of the Captives on either side be made *optional*, those in our hands and particularly those captured by the Burmese in former times, would prefer remaining where they are and where their labour and industry are their own, to returning to the Service which the King and their own Chiefs would require from them, whilst the Burmese Captives in the hands of the Siamese, would be happy, for the same reason, to be released and allowed to join our Government. I may here also mention, that the Cochin Chinese Envoys declined to receive any presents in return for those which they had brought, upon the plea that what they had brought were only articles intended to assist at the funeral of the late King, and that this proceeding on the part of the Cochin Chinese had led to an opinion on the part of the Subordinate Siamese Officers, which was however incorrect, that the Envoys had left this Court with unfriendly Sentiments.

13. On the evening of the 11th I had again a long conference with the Prah Klang, who was assisted by his Deputy, styled Pya Phi-phut, by a Native of the Coast of Coromandel Pya Chula, and his Son Radsithi, and by several other Siamese Officers. I was now informed that this Court had about two months ago decided upon co-operating

with the British Army against the Burmese, that it had instructed Chow Pya Maha Ayothia to communicate this decision to Colonel Smith at Martaban, but at the same time to declare, that the Siamese Co-operation would depend upon their Army being first allowed to occupy Tavoy and Martaban, as the occupation of those places was essential to their Troops to serve them as *points d'appui* and depôts for Stores and provisions. I observed that I had been directed by the Right Honble. the Governor General in Council to point out to the Siamese Court, that it is open to their Troops to attack any part of the Burmese dominions from their North West frontier, which appeared to me a better point whence to commence their attack, than Martaban and Tavoy—these places particularly the latter, being so far distant from the scene of Warfare. The Prah Klang replied that there is plenty of time before us, and that a Siamese Army should move from Cheung Mai also *towards the Capital of Ava* but that at the first breaking out of the war, the Siamese Court had decided upon taking possession of Martaban which intention we had anticipated, and that their Army could be of the greatest use in moving towards Toonghoo or Taund, as they had received recent intelligence and urgent representations from Peguers at Martaban, that whilst the British Troops are engaged on the line of the Irrawuddy, the Burmese are at liberty to the Eastward, and have come down in force to Kiauk-Kri, whence they are threatning Pegu and even Rangoon after much difficulty I ascertained that the Siamese Court desired not the temporary occupation but the permanent possession of the whole of the Provinces of Tavoy and Martaban, the latter of which they said consisted of 32 Towns the names of which they could give me. I was next shewn a letter in the Burmese language signed "Robert Fenwick commanding at Martaban" which the Minister said had been just

received and a Siamese translation of which he had interpreted to me. It was addressed to Chow Pya Maha Ayothia in acknowledgement of a communication from him proposing to occupy Tavoy and Martaban, which communication the writer said, had been forwarded to the British Commander in Chief, and it concluded with an expression, of which the Minister made more than what my Interpreters told me the actual words warranted, as to the writer's wish, that the Siamese Army would arrive at Martaban *quickly*. I declared that I thought the proposition very inconsistent which required us to make so large a cession to them, now that our Troops had succeeded in effecting so much and in approaching the Capital of Ava itself and that at any rate I requested the Minister would allow me to send a Dispatch to Martaban to ascertain the wishes of the Commander in Chief of the British Troops, before I encouraged this Court to move Chow Pya Maha Ayothia's Army towards Martaban. I was shewn a Burmese, who was the bearer or the above letter, and who at my request was sent to my house on the following day—He then informed me that his name is Cha-Ka-tan that he had arrived three days before with the letter which the Prah Klang had shewn me—that he was 18 days travelling from Martaban to Bangkok, through Uttran, Chaiyok and Camburi, that at this last place he met Chow Pya Maha Ayothia with a force of about 6000 Men moving towards Martaban—that three days after he had left Martaban, he met a Peguer from Rangoon who informed him that the Burmese had come down to Kiauk-Kri and were threatning Rangoon and that the Armistice between the English and Burmese forces had terminated in a horrible act of treachery on the part of the Burmese. Some accounts of this treachery was brought to me before I had seen the Prah Klang on the 11th Instant. It was stated that when an English deputation escorted by only 500 men had arrived at the spot appointed to meet a Burmese

deputation, in order to settle the terms of a Treaty of peace, our detachment was surrounded and cut to pieces by an overpowering Burmese force.

14. At the conference on the 11 : and by some subsequent enquiries from other sources I derived the following information respecting the different Siamese Chiefs, and their detachments who have been in communication with our Officers, Chow Pya * Maha Ayothia was first sent from Bangkok with an Army of Pegu Emigrants which was joined by a force of Abasses under Maha Ugina. The former opened the Negotiation with Sir Archibald Campbell and continued it with Colonel Smith at Martaban, it is said here, with every sincerity : but Maha Ugina, the Chief of the Abasses, refused to go over to Martaban and put himself under the direction of the English. The Prah Klang's former Deputy, Pya Phi-phut, during this schism joined Maha Ayothia's Army from Bang Kok, and jealous of the Chief forced the Camp to break up, and the Pegu force to retire, for which conduct that Pya Phe-phut would have been severely punished, if he had not died shortly after his return to Bangkok. Maha Ayothia's brother, Pya Puram, was lastly sent to recall the Pegu force to Bangkok to to assist at the late King's funeral. Martaban is considered by the Siamese as the most valuable place on the Western Sea, and from the large body of Pegu Emigrants now residing within the Siamese territories, it is believed that through their means the possession of that Province would be most easily retained by this Government. Pya Surrasina was sent with a Siamese force to the frontiers of Tavoy, and it was he that forwarded to Major Balmain the letter* from Paumzeek which is the Burmese name for the Siamese Menam-Noi, a north western branch of the MeKlong River. That letter proves to have been written by the Ministers at Bangkok who alone are styled *Sinabudi*. Pya

* This Chief is himself a man or Peguer having emigrated into the Siamese territories many years ago.

* See Enclosure in Brigadier General Sir Archibald Campbell's dispatch to Mr. Secry. Swinton dated 29: March last.

Surrasina returned to the Capital with the intelligence that he had communicated with a British Officer on the frontiers of Tavoy, who desired to accompany him to Bangkok, but that he had recommended him to wait until he the Pya, had reported the circumstance to the Court of Siam. Pya Surrasina died shortly after his return here, and nothing further was ever heard of the British Officer. Pya Chimpohun was ordered to the Capital and confined upon the information of one of his own followers, who acknowledged that the Siamese had proceeded beyond their own frontier and within our known jurisdiction. Pya Chimpohun was superceded by the Wang-nai Prah Klang Pya Kray, who is now at Chimpohun. and who having made several trading Voyages to Prince of Wales Island is said to be well acquainted with the English. Mr. Maingy is most probably personally known to him. His former title was Luang Thep-Sena.

15. The Siamese Court do not yet believe it possible that the English can subdue the Burmese, and no account that any British Officer has sent to it has ever received a moments credit. Even their own spies and subjects are afraid to report all they learn on the frontiers, confident that the Court will not credit them. For a long time the Court would not believe a word of our successes, and at length when the truth was forced upon it, Maha Ayothia was sent towards Martaban with two Sets of Dispatches, to be used according as he might find the Burmese or the English the victorious party. The King of Ava has written more than once to the King of Siam during the present War. The first letter offered, as we had before heard at Prince of Wales Island, to assist at the funeral of the late King. The second arrived only three months ago. In this the King of Ava besought the King of Siam to be neutral in the War, stating that the English had suddenly, it is true

possessed themselves of many parts of his dominions but that they will never reach his Capital, and that the Burmese will soon expel them from all the places they have taken, if the Siamese only keep neutral. This information is implicitly credited by the Siamese Ministers, who, I am convinced, never intended, nor do they yet intend, to take any other step in the present War, than to see what benefit they can quietly seize for themselves. However inimical to the Burmese, they have never been truly desirous of our success. A regard for their common religion, as well as a strong jealousy of our power, makes them now anxious to see the war concluded. I am sorry also to report that a very unfavorable impression has been excited against us by the reports brought here by Siamese and Peguers, of English Officers residing in Pagodas and of the images in them being plundered. The King of Siam answered His Burmese Majesty's letters, and I am told with an assurance that it would be impossible for the English to subdue Ava, unacquainted as they are with the true religion.

16. At the conference on the 11th instant I again urged the Prah Klang on the subject of the Burmese Captives, and I fairly told him, that he could not be ignorant that the principal cause of our present War with the Burmese arose from their having entered our territories and killed and carried away the subjects of the British Government, in which light all Burmese taken after Tavoy and Mergui fell into our possession would, and must be considered by us. He again evinced much vexation and dissatisfaction and observed that His Majesty had not put irons on these Captives, and had, in fact, already told such of them to return as desired it. I pointed out the absurdity of telling poor men, who were several hundreds of miles distant from their homes, that they might return, destitute as they must be of all means of returning and travelling such a distance, and I

at length obtained a promise from him, that he would take an opportunity that night of submitting the matter to the King, and of informing His Majesty, that no proof of the friendly disposition of the Siamese would be so acceptable to the Governor General, as the return of the Burmese Captives. He added however, that whenever we had conquered Ava the whole of the Burmese prisoners in Siam would be released, and I discovered that one great objection, which the Court has to release these men, arises from its full belief that according to the King of Ava's declaration, we shall soon be expelled from the Country of these Captives, in which case emancipation would only deprive the Siamese of so many labourers. On the following day I was happy to find that the Prah Klang had fulfilled his promise, as I learnt from a private source, that the Wang-na had been desired by the King to give the subject his deliberation.

17. On the 13: and 14th: I had long conferences with the Prah Klang assisted by Pya Phe-phut, Pya Chula and other Siamese Chiefs as to the ceremony to be observed at my presentation to the King. It was at first attempted to make me believe that Mr. Crawfurd had made the same prostrations as a Siamese before the late King. I objected to the removal of our shoes, stating that I understood such a ceremony had been dispensed with in regard to the Cochin Chinese Envoy, that whilst a native of India pulls off his shoes in token of respect, a European takes off his hat, and that therefore if our shoes were removed we should of course keep on our hats. I found Pya Chula and his Son much more pertinacious on these points than any of the Siamese and I was obliged to silence them, by declaring that if our shoes were removed I should insist upon their turbands being taken off. I pressed the matter as to the production of the Governor General's letter at the Audience stating that I had delivered it to the Prah Klang for

the purpose of enabling the Court to be well apprized before hand of its contents, but that unless I saw it again before the King, I should doubt whether the very letter which I had brought had been presented to His Majesty. I requested to deliver it into the hands of the King, explaining that such a ceremony was not new in Siam, as the former French Embassador had performed it. The Prah Klang observed, that His Majesty's throne was too high to render it possible for me to deliver the letter into his own hands, and that as all the Ministers and Court would be lying prostrate several yards distant from the throne, it would shock them exceedingly to see me stand up and approach close to His Majesty. The Minister seemed to have no objection to furnish us with Elephants to convey us to the Palace but stated that as these animals are very seldom rode here, he would not answer for their good conduct, and therefore recommended us to take horses, which he assured us persons of the first distinction at Bangkok used, and particularly on occasions of ceremony as in the late instance of the King's funeral. I had however found Mr. Crawfurd's information so extremely accurate on all points, that I declined the horses for Captain Macfarquhar and myself and proposed that the Minister should furnish us with men to carry us in two chairs which we should fit out according to our ideas of state, to which neither the Cochin Chinese Hammock nor Siamese letter (*sic*) corresponds. At length the Minister desired me to put down upon paper the forms which I would propose for the ceremony of my reception in order that the rest of the Ministers might take them into consideration. I gladly availed myself of this reference to writing, and on the next day presented to the Minister a Memorial, which I had translated into the Siamese language, describing the forms that were most proper in my opinion to be adopted. Almost all my propositions were acceded to, with one condition that we should once make the

same kind of Siamese obeisance as that made by Mr. Crawfurd and as this consisted merely in our joining our hands and raising them to the forehead, I readily engaged to perform it. Pya Chula and Radsethi again started objections, although the Prah Klang consented, to my Interpreter Mr. Abraham Poons, accompanied (*sic*) me before the King. I distinctly told the former, that rather than put myself so completely in the power of strangers, as to trust solely to their interpretations of what the King might be pleased to observe, or what I might wish to say, I should decline the honor of the Audience altogether. The Minister asked me, how many Gentlemen were to accompany me. I replied that according to our Notions, the more persons attending such a ceremony, the greater is the respect indicated, and I would propose therefore that besides Captain Macfarquhar and my Interpreter, I should be attended by Captain Sutherland the Commander of the Guardian and Mr. Hunter, who had been introduced to the notice of the Prah Klang by the Resident of Singapore. To this last Gentleman the Prah Klang at first objected, stating that he is only a Merchant, but I explained that Merchants in Europe are men of the first distinction and often richer than Princes, and that as I had heard every Petty Surat or other Native Merchant, who visits Bangkok, is introduced to the King, I was of course desirous that the same honor should be received by Mr. Hunter, and that the King should become better acquainted with British Merchants, upon whose account indeed is the British Government principally anxious to cultivate a more friendly intercourse with Siam. The Minister enquired whether I did not intend my Son, a boy of Six years of age, to accompany me. I replied that he is quite a child and that he has come in no public capacity but that if His Majesty desired to see him I should of course be proud of the honor of introducing him. I was told that the King had directed the Boy to be brought before him.

18. During the night of the 15 : I prepared a short address of what appeared necessary to be said by me to His Majesty at the Audience. In it I tendered to him the cordial congratulations of the Right Honorable the Governor General and the English Nation, upon his accession to the throne—detailed. as succinctly as possible, the object of my Mission, remarking, that friendship and commerce are all that the British Government desire from the Siamese and further believing that the personal interest of the Ministers prevented their repeating to His Majesty all that I had represented on the subject of the Burmese prisoners, I concluded my address with a very strong appeal in favor of these men. I had at the same time a Siamese translation of this address secretly prepared by one of the King's own Interpreters, and I annexed it to the English copy. I was assured that if I read this address before His Majesty and laid it by the side of the Governor General's letter, the King would be certain of seeing it, and perhaps of calling for the Siamese translation to be read on the spot. The King, I was told, possessed too much intelligence not to acknowledge its justice and propriety, immediately that he fully understood the nature of my representation respecting the Burmese Captives.

19. Early on the morning of the 16 Instant the day fixed for our introduction to the King, the Governor General's letter was brought to me, and at 10 A. M. we left the house in four boats. The first conveyed the Sepoys and their drum and fife. The second Captain Macfarquhar, my Interpreter, and myself, with the Public Letter. The third our chairs of ceremony, and the fourth Captain Sutherland, Mr. Hunter and a band of Siamese Music. We were followed by two or three hundred small boats with Siamese Officers, and those whom curiosity had brought to witness the Scene, which we attempted to

make as imposing as possible. On our arrival at the opposite side of the river, Captain Macfarquhar and myself got into our chairs and the rest of the Gentlemen mounted the small horses which were in waiting with tolerably decent appointments. We proceeded thus, accompanied by Jose Pediado and Beneditto, as far as the gateway of the second Court, where the Native Christians only pulled off their Shoes and Stockings whilst we were requested to dismount, to leave our Sepoys and walk a short distance into a Hall in which we found Pya Phiphut, Pya Chula and his son and other Siamese Officers in waiting, with several state Elephants standing outside. We were detained in this Hall for about half an hour, and then summoned into the presence of the King, who we were informed had taken his seat on the throne. We passed through a body of Siamese Troops seated on their Hams within a railing each side of the road, which was lined by 2 or 300 Drums and other instruments that played a grave tune. At the door of the Hall of Audience, Pidiada, Beneditto and all our Siamese attendants fell on their Knees and fore-arms, in which posture they moved before and on each side of us. The moment we entered and saw the King, which we could not immediately do, as he was seated on a throne 10 or 12 feet high at the farther end of the Hall, which appeared to have been purposely darkened, we made three profound bows, whilst the Siamese struck their heads on the ground, and raised their hands joined to their foreheads the same number of times. We then moved on, preceded by Pya Phi phut, and Pya Chula about twenty paces where we again bowed, and the Siamese made their obeisances three times. We then set down on the Carpet which covered the floor. Pya Phi phut was lying about 8 paces before me, and between us Pya Chula, Pediada was on my left—my own Interpreter immediately behind me—

Captain Macfarquhar on my right, and next to him were Beneditto and Radsitha. The rest of the Gentlemen sat behind us, whilst a little before and on the left of us, the Public presents which we had brought were all arranged. At a signal from Pya Phe-phut, I rose holding the Governor General's letter over my head, and advancing 6 or 8 paces beyond that Pya, where a Gold Vase had been placed, I deposited the letter upon it, and then taking out the English address, which I had prepared, read it out with a loud voice and placing it by the side of the Governor General's letter, retired to my seat, keeping my face towards the King. The whole of the English Gentlemen then, as had been previously settled, joined their hands and raised them three times against the forehead. His Majesty desired that we should approach him nearer, and we were moved 8 or 10 paces in advance. Pya Phi phut then read out a list of the presents, and a complimentary speech which he had prepared in my name. The first questions His Majesty asked were, whether I had come from the same Governor General who had deputed Mr. Crawfurd to Siam, and how long the present Governor General had been in India. He next demanded "what is the object of your coming here and of the Governor General of Bengal sending me these presents." I replied that the presents were tokens of friendship and good will, and that I had been deputed to His Majesty to tender to him the congratulations of the Right Honble. the Governor General of India, upon his accession to the great throne of Siam, to cement friendship between the Siamese and English Nations, and to submit propositions for improving the wealth and commerce of both countries. Fearing that the King had not noticed that a Siamese translation was annexed to my English address and desirous of having it then read if possible, I added that, that paper explained the objects of my Mission and I

rose and delivered it into the hands of Pya Chula. The King directing the paper to be given to the Prah Klang observed "I am much obliged to the Governor General." The King then demanded, what is the cause of the present War between the English and Burmese" I took care to shape my reply so as to bear on the subject of the Burmese Captives, and said that the Burmese had made unjustifiable incursions into our territories, had burnt and destroyed some places on our Chittagong frontier, and had carried away some of our subjects. His Majesty asked if the war had commenced before or since the arrival of the present Governor General and observed that the Burmese are old enemies of the Siamese, and that he is happy to hear of the present War. He next asked, if the War is difficult. I answered that it is difficult wherever the enemy can take advantage of their woods and swamps. His Majesty desired us again to approach him closer, and we were moved 6 or 8 paces forward. He then enquired if I had learnt whether the populous nation to the North of Ava are coming down to assist the Burmese—and on my replying that I had not, he observed that there are now at Bangkok several Laos Chiefs whom I may see and interrogate on the subject. The King then asked if I proposed to wait here until the arrival of the Governor of Ligor, and I replied that I did, as I had some affairs to submit to the consideration of His Majesty in conjunction with that Chief. He next enquired after the health of the Governor General, and of the King of England, and in replying to the latter question I took occasion to state that Great Britain was never in a more flourishing condition than at present. He then asked how many years I had been in India, and when it was my intention to return to England and enquired of the Prah Klang, whether Mr. Crawfurd or I am the higher Officer. The Prah Klang answered, that Mr. Crawfurd is a Captain of Merchants, and I a Captain of

Soldiers. The King demanded, whether every English Minister and Officer is not obliged to go to war in the same manner as those of the Siamese and Burmese Nations. I replied that our Officers are divided in some respects in the same manner as the Chinese, into Mandarins of Letters and Military Mandarins, and that war is the business of our Military Officers. The King then directed, that whatever I had to say respecting trade or any other matter I should communicate to the Prah Klang, to whose best attention he was further pleased to recommend us in very strong terms. He took particular notice of my Son—asked his age and where he was born, and at the close of the Audience, the Prah Klang presented to the Boy a number of Toys and other Articles, which the King had ordered to be prepared for him. A Siamese Officer bearing an instrument in the shape of a sceptre, and seated on the floor a little in advance of Pya Phe phut, then rose upon his Knees and made three obeisances to the King, who took up his *Kris*, and a noise like the stroke of a wand was heard, at which Curtains of Gold Cloth were quickly drawn before the King's throne. The whole of the Siamese when made the usual obeisances towards the Curtains.

20. Immediately below the King's throne were seated the Princes of the blood. On each side were the principal Ministers according to their relative ranks. The first two persons on the King's right were the Yomarat and Kalahom, and on the left the Chakri and Prah Klang. There were several Chinese and Cochin Chinese, and we noticed particularly some Laos Officers who were richly dressed and much resembled, in the opinion of Captain Macfarquhar the Goorkha Chiefs. After the Audience we were taken to see the white Elephant, and one or two of the Temples, and returned home with the same state as we had set out.

21. The King appeared to us to bear a strong resemblance to the King of Ligor—he had no crown, which I am assured he never wears excepting on the day of his Coronation. He wore no (*sic*) loose transparent muslin dress over his rich Cloths of Gold in the same manner as the Courtiers covered their surat Kim Khaul vests, and his fingers displayed a profusion of diamond rings. The Hall of Audience appeared 120 feet long by 60 broad and about 40 feet high. Even after we had the last time been desired to approach, we were perhaps 40 feet distant from the throne. I must own that although the dresses of the King and his Ministers were rich, the *tout ensemble* much disappointed me. There was a kind of second hand finery in the hall of Audience, which displayed not one handsome lustre, whilst to each pillar was fixed a large Chinese painting on glass of a European Officer or Lady. The throne is in shape like a boat placed upon a platform with a small Canopy the whole covered with gold. The Concourse of Spectators which flocked around us, joined to the Soldiers and other attendants about the Palace, was very great. At our entrance into the Hall of Audience we could scarcely move from the number of Courtiers and other Officers who were lying prostrate on the ground. The King's questions were repeated by Pya Phi phut to Pya Chula, who repeated them to Jose Pedjada, who interpreted them to me in English. Having my own interpreter immediately behind me, I often understood the King's question long before it reached me through the Official Channels. My replies were taken in the same manner to Pya Phe phut, who made them much longer by first repeating all the Kings titles stating that his great Excellent and infallible Majesty had been pleased to ask such a question, to which I begged with all humiliation, to submit such an answer. Nothing however can be more contemptible than the appearance of the Soldiers, and I cannot credit what however the Native

Christians assured me was the case, that the Soldiers we saw on this day were the King's body guard, and some of his best description of Troops. They were a poor, thin ill set race, many of them with old Sepoys coats. Their Muskets were old. rusty Arms held in every possible way, and as to accoutrements they had scarcely any. The most formidable body of Troops consisted of a party of stout able bodied men each armed with a thick stick. The Siamese Soldier when detached against the Burmese frontiers is supplied, I am informed, with a Musket. a Bamboo full of rice and a hoe, with which last instrument he digs a hole for himself, in which he sits concealed until some of the enemy come near enough to be surprised.

22. In the course of the same day the materials were furnished us for a handsome dinner in the name of the King, and in the evening according to established custom, 3 Catties of Silver, a sum of 240 Ticals, were sent to me for the purpose of defraying the Bazar expenses of the Mission. I returned the Money with a message that I desired first to communicate with the Prah Klang on this subject, and on the following day the 17: I mentioned to him that if His Majesty insisted upon it I was willing to receive the money, but as the King had been pleased to permit me to follow some European Customs I hoped he would grant me the further indulgence to decline receiving this money such a payment was not only unpleasant to European feelings, but burthensome to the state which receives a public Mission. The Prah Klang said that as the King had ordered the money to be sent it could not possibly be declined without giving great offence, and that I had better take it. He promised however to report what I had said to the King, and on the following day I judged it best to accept the money, and carry it to the public Account.

23. On the evening of the 17: the Prah Klang referring to the address which I had spoken before the King, said that he saw I was annoyed at the Siamese translation not being read at the time, but that it was impossible. According to the laws of the realm no writing can be laid before the King until after it has undergone a careful examination by the Ministers, and no one could answer for my paper not containing some expressions or passages highly improper to be read out before the King. I said that I had taken great pains to be assured that my paper contained nothing improper, and that I was only anxious that its contents should at some time or other be communicated to the King. The Prah Klang observed that the paper certainly contained nothing improper, and that he would lay it that night before the King. I find, as I had previously been led to expect, that the King seeing my anxiety to bring that paper to his notice ordered the Prah Klang to lay it before him. The Prah Klang then stated, that in my address to the King, I had referred to the subject of the Burmese prisoners but that this was unnecessary, as His Majesty had ordered them all to be released. I now began to hope that my representations on this subject could no longer be evaded, and after some further discussions I brought the Minister to agree, that I should immediately send a dispatch to Mr. Maingy by one of my own Servants requesting him to send as particular a list and description as he possibly could, of the prisoners taken at Tavoy and Mergui, that the whole of them should be accounted for to me, and that such as desired to return, should be conveyed to the frontiers of Tavoy and Mergui where a party from Mr. Maingy should meet to take charge of them. I fear it will be extremely difficult for Mr. Maingy to prepare such a list, and yet without it I know not how I can check the Account given me by the Siamese Officers. Besides, the Prah Klang declares he cannot tell me exactly

what number of Captives was made. I am assured by several secret informants that the Court of Siam is sincere in its intention to (*sic*) releasing these men, and I own I am inclined to believe it so.

24. During the foregoing evening the Prah Klang acquainted me, that the King had done me unusually great honor at the Audience in having twice desired me to approach him nearer, and in having spoken to me much more than what is ever done by a King of Siam even to a Cochin Chinese Embassador, and further, that His Majesty is exceedingly pleased at the answer in which I admitted that the Burmese War is difficult, wherever the Enemy can take advantage of their woods and swamps, considering the same as a proof of my truth and integrity. I learnt also, that His Majesty has expressed his desire of soon granting me a second Audience.

25. Respecting the present Monarch all accounts confirm the high character which Mr. Crawfurd gave him as Krom Chiat, for talent and intelligence. He is now 38 years of age, and he is said to attend very much more than the late King to the conduct of public business. The active personal interest which he takes in all affairs of the Kingdom has rendered him generally popular. His accession to the throne was effected without the slightest blood shed, and with the full consent of the Ministers and all the other Princes who considered him much more qualified to succeed than the legitimate Son, Chow Fa of the late King, to whom he is infinitely superior in judgement and ability. Even Chow Fa and his mother quietly submitted to the arrangement, and the former has entered into the order of Priesthood without possessing, I am assured, the shadow of a party in opposition to the present King. The first day the King ascended the throne he made a public declaration that his father had spent many millions within the palace,

but that he would not spend a quarter of the sum, and that he was determined not to be a King-Merchant and not to maintain any monopolies but permit a general free trade. The truth is, that the present Monarch of (*sic*) the Prah Klang were joined with the late King in all commercial transactions, and that then, besides other practices, the losses were always carried to the share of the King. Aware of these practices, it is said the present King is now resolved not to suffer by them himself. But I shall take a future opportunity of submitting to you the information which I have collected respecting the present state of Commerce at this Capital. I early possessed very great advantages in the experience which Mr. Hunter and Mr. Malloch had acquired during their residence here for the last 15 Months, and the fruits of which experience they most liberally and readily communicated to me. The Portuguese Consul also, Mr. Silveria was permitted, and even requested by the Prah Klang to visit me before my presentation to the King and I have found this Gentleman as kind and as useful as Mr. Crawfurd reported him to be. He is now residing here under scarcely any public character, his own Government of Goa having quite neglected him, whilst not a single Vessel under Portuguese colours has visited this port during the last 7 years. He supports himself by a little trade, and he is forced to submit to many unpleasant services that the Court required of him. All letters in the English language are sent to him to be translated into the Portuguese tongue, from which Jose Pediada translates them into the Siamese. My dispatches from Tavoy were thus translated, and I availed myself of the same means of procuring correct Siamese Versions of the Memorial and address which are above mentioned.

26. On the 19th Instant we were presented

to the Wang na with the same state and ceremony as at our presentation to the King, excepting that instead of thrice we performed only once at each time the European and Siamese obeisances and perhaps the number of attendants and spectators exceeded that which we saw on the 16th. The Wang na was also seated upon a throne and his Court and Hall of Audience were the Counter parts of the King's. His Palace is a little higher than the King's on the same side of the river, and his power in the state appears very nearly as great as the King's having his own Ministers, Chakri, Kalahom, and Prah Klang. Hence he is called by the Native Christians the second King. My address to the King must have pleased, as the Officers of the Wang na came to me and requested that I would speak an address before their Master also and I gratified them by reading a short complimentary speech when introduced. The King's Prah Klang was in attendance at the Wang na's Court and lying in the same abject posture as before his own Master. The Wang na put to me precisely the same questions, and almost precisely in the same order, as those that the King had put, adding only an enquiry, whether the present Governor of Penang has not newly taken charge. The Wang na's Prah Klang, Pya Kray, is, as I have before mentioned, at Chimpahun, and to Pya We soot, who is the Pya Phe phut but is now acting for Pya Kray, I was referred by the Wang na for all matters of business. The Wang na formerly styled Kroom sak is a brother of the late Monarchs, and his mother is the Governor of Ligores Sister. He exercises an especial superintendance over the southern and particularly the malayan states, and he is described as a very benevolent, good humoured man, partial to Europeans and to Native Christians. He was drest very much like the King, and appeared to us an unusually large portly figure. During the Audience

the Wang-na was smoking a *roko* or Cigar, which appeared a less dignified occupation than the King's, who was eating betel.

27. In a visit which I paid to the Prah Klang on the afternoon of the 20th he offered to shew me the letter which the Ministers proposed to send to Martaban in the course of a day or two by the Burmese Messenger Cha-Ka-ton, and he engaged to allow two Sepoys from my Escort to accompany the Burmese to Martaban with a dispatch from myself to Brigadier General Sir Archibald Campbell. He declined giving me the names of the 32 places of which he had on the 11th told me the Siamese considered the Province of Martaban to consist, and he seemed to believe that the Commander of the British Forces would accede to the propositions of this Court without enquiry as to the nature or result of any Negotiations which I may carry on at Bangkok. I had before sounded several well informed persons here as to the possibility of prevailing on the Court to depute to the frontiers one of the Ministers or some properly accredited Agent, to discuss and arrange all points relating to boundaries and the direction of any Siamese Co-operating force, but I was assured that no Siamese Minister would ever dream of proceeding on such a Mission, and that such are the jealousy and distrust entertained by the Court towards their own Officers that if one were deputed he would receive no powers to act on the spot, or to ensure to us that any part of his proceedings would be ultimately confirmed at the Capital. I now pointed out to the Prah Klang that the English desire to cultivate a truly friendly understanding with the Siamese on the frontiers of Tavoy and Mergui, and that to prevent all chance of dispute or collision it is absolutely necessary for Mr. Maingy to be early informed what are the Siamese boundaries in that direction. The Minister said that Tavoy and Mergui themselves are in fact the Siamese

boundaries, that those places formerly belonged to the Siamese, and that the Court had long resolved upon recovering them from the Burmese. I replied that what he observed is now matter of history as the English have possessed themselves of those places whence I hoped an enlarged commercial intercourse would soon be opened with the Siamese. The Minister observed and with more appearance of frankness and sincerity than I had expected, that he hoped a flourishing trade would be soon brought by the English to Bangkok through that channel. I now proposed that the Court should depute an Officer of high rank with Captain Macfarquhar to the frontier of Tavoy to arrange the boundaries between the Siamese and English possessions as well as other important points, in conjunction with the British Commissioner on the spot. He replied that the subject as well as all questions respecting the boundaries belonged to the department of the Kalahom, but that he would that night take an opportunity of consulting that Officer and the other Ministers, and that when I called on him on the following day he would give an answer to my proposition. I then suggested that perhaps the Prah Klang himself might find it convenient to go to the frontiers of Martaban or Tavoy. The Minister rolled his large body round, stared at me, and seemed as much startled as if I had proposed to him to take a trip to Europe.

28. During this visit the Prah Klang laid before me a sum of 120 Ticals which he said the Wang na had agreeably to established custom sent to me. Seeing me unwilling to receive this money the Minister told me fairly enough, that the Siamese desired to supply the table of the Mission daily, but that as we lived so much upon Animal food, and as it would be repugnant to their religion to take away the life of any animal, they conceived it best to ask us to receive the Money and provide ourselves with suitable food.

I received the money and have carried it to the public Account.

29. On the night of the 20th. I paid a visit to Prince Krom-Meun Surin, an Uncle of his present Majesty and exercising the same superintendance over the Commercial and foreign relations of the Kingdom as the King formerly did as Krom Moomg Chiat. The Prah Klang and his Officers are immediately under this Prince who however appears to me to be more of the nature of a state pageant, being allowed by his nephew, the Prah Klang to exercise little real power in the conduct of business. The Court of the Prince was not very numerously attended. He was seated on a kind of Cushion or platform covered with scarlet and embroidered Cloth and raised about a foot higher than the hall of Audience, and he appeared a mild good looking man of about 38 years of age. We were attended by Pya Phi phut, Pya Chula and his Son Radsithi and the Prince repeated for the most part the same questions, as those which the King and Wang na had put to me. I had in the first conference with the Prah Klang, obtained permission to make use of my own interpreter, Mr. Abraham Poons, but because he would not address the Prah Klang in the same abject form as his own Interpreters, the Minister often pretended not to understand him and to avoid delay, I availed myself of the Services of either Jose Pediada who speaks a little English, or of Che Sa the Rajah of Ligores Malay Interpreter, or of Pya Chula, or his Son, both of whom speak the Hindostannee language. On this night Radsithi was interpreting between the Prince and myself, when learning from my own interpreter that Radsithi had not repeated to the Prince the full sense of some of my answers and particularly of one, in which I had stated that the chief of Ligor is well apprized of the sincerity of my good will towards the Siamese which he interpreted " that the chief of Ligor knew that I was

coming to Bangkok"—I told Radsithi that I should rise and walk out of the room if he persisted in such conduct and at the next question which the Prince put to me, I declined for some time to give any answer. This created as strong a sensation among the prostrate Courtiers as if a Pistol had been fired at the Prince. The Native Christian interpreters in attendance were more frightened than the Siamese. I could not persuade Pediada to explain. My own Interpreter attempted but was not allowed to go on. At length I addressed the Prince myself as respectfully as I could in what little Siamese I have been able to learn, stating that the Interpreter had omitted to repeat to His Highness what I had said. This led to an explanation and when the Prince was at length fully informed of the cause of my complaint, he did not appear in the least offended with what I had done and I am extremely happy that the name of the Chief of Ligor was connected with the subject, in which Radsithi gave me this opportunity of exposing him. That Chief's Son and many of his followers were present at the Audience, and they are now outrageous against Radsithi.

30. I have found these two Chuliahs Pya Chula and his Son who are as Mr. Crawfurd reported the principal instruments by which the trade of this port is conducted on its present mischievous principles, most adverse to British influence the introduction of which they justly apprehend will be fatal to theirs. They have unfortunately acquired much ascendency over the mind of the Prah Klang, and are consulted on all occasions. It is an established etiquette for His Majesty and the Prah Klang when receiving any presents to make a return very nearly equivalent to the cost of them. But the presents are referred to these Chuliahs to be appraised, and this duty they perform so unfairly as to lead the Prah Klang himself sometimes to double the price fixed by them, as he

did in the case of some very handsome Gold Watches set round with Pearls lately presented by Mr. Hunter which cost 500 Ticals a piece, and which these Chuliahs valued at 40 Ticals only. These men also persuaded the Prah Klang that two handsome Emerald rings which Mr. Crawfurd had sent to him were of glass. I have before stated that in the previous discussions respecting the ceremony of our introduction to the King, I found these men most pertinacious. They attempted to make us prostrate ourselves as a Siamese, and insisted upon the removal of our shoes. Pya Chula also on the day of our introduction thrust himself between Pya Phe phut and myself contrary to what I had previously stipulated with the Prah Klang, who agreed that the King should address me through two persons only. Whilst before the King Pya Chula made several attempts, until he was sternly checked by me, to make us perform the Siamese obeisances oftner than what had been settled. His son desired me also to hold my head down and not cast my eyes up towards the King. I only laughed and asked if he had ever heard of the English proverb, "the Cat may look at the King," Still the extraordinary influence which these men have acquired induced me, after the affair at Krom-Meun Surin's Audience, to expostulate with them mildly, and to attempt to satisfy them in as friendly a manner as possible of the impropriety of Radsithi's conduct which I conceived it prudent to term a mistake.

31. I am sorry to declare that perhaps in no part of the world is there a more despicable and contemptible race than the Native Christian Interpreters. They cringe and tremble and bow down before a Siamese Officer with much more abject humiliation than a Siamese of the lowest rank. They are more dirty and lazy and more supported by the labour of their Wives than the Siamese

themselves. As Interpreters they never dare interpret any speech or remark which appears to them in the least calculated to vex the Siamese Officer. By adopting the measure of transmitting to the Prah Klang on our first arrival a full exposition of the objects of our Mission, and a detailed list of the presents which I had brought for the Court, I saved myself all troublesome enquiries on these points from the Interpreters, as well as the Siamese petty Officers. I visited the part of the town inhabited by these Interpreters and Native Christians, called Santa Cruz and I never saw more nasty and dirty habitations, under each house pigs are reared, and are allowed to wallow in the mud and mire of years.

32. Yesterday the 21st. I met at the Prah Klang's by appointment the Laos Chiefs who are now here, but I could not collect much information from them. They said that before their departure from their own homes about 2 months ago, they had heard that the "Lao Burmahs" to the north of Ava, who they told me are extremely numerous and use the same dress and language as themselves are coming down in great force in support of the Burmese. They had heard nothing of any Chinese detachment, but they said that there is a race in Northern Laos who dress in the same manner as the Chinese, wearing the hair only differently. They declared that any attack upon Ava from Cheung-Mai would be full of the greatest difficulty, as the frontiers on each side are an extensive Mountainous Waste, through many parts of which no carriage Cattle can pass. Four of these Chiefs were styled the Prince of Chiang-ton, Pya of Phray, Pya of Cheung-Mai, and Pya of Joo-um. They mentioned the names of many places which are unknown to European Geographers. Although the Prah Klang hesitated when I requested to be allowed

to pay these Chiefs a visit, I am still not without hopes of being able to see more of them hereafter. They dress much like natives of upper Hindostan, and they speak a language, I am informed, differing *very little from the Siamese.*

33. The Prah Klang next shewed me a Copy *of a letter which the Kalahom is about to dispatch to Maha Ayothia, and on having it interpreted,* I found that Maha Ayothia is informed by the Kalahom that Captain Fenwick's letter from Martaban has been laid before the other Ministers who are happy to learn that that Officer has prepared a supply of provisions at Martaban for the Co-operating Siamese force, which however, the Ministers desire Maha Ayothia to inform the British General cannot be of any use unless some place can be entirely given up to it, from which it may not only be assured of provisions and support, but to which it may return and remain during the ensuing rainy Season, in the event of the Burmese not being subdued by that time. The latter further desires Maha Ayothia to assure the British General, that if such a place be delivered to the Siamese they will assist the English powerfully and Zealously—that the Siamese know how attack the Burmese, and how to capture those places, to which the English have not yet been able to take—and that their Armies shall advance against Ava in Tens of thousands with numerous Elephants and Cattle. Until I ascertain the exact state of the War and of Brigadier General Campbell's wishes, I have not deemed it prudent to reject all idea of Siamese co-operation and I confined myself yesterday to pressing the Ministers to send at once to Rangoon, without further delay whatever Elephants Carriage-Cattle and provisions they possess. The Prah Klang observed that Mr. Crawfurd had some months ago made a similar request but that the Siamese Court could not comply with it, as it would be contrary to

their religious tenets to send us animals to be killed for food for our Troops. I said that we did not eat Elephants, and that Cattle fit for draught and Carriage was what we required. He replied, the Siamese would not believe but that the English would kill and eat whatever animals might be sent.

34. The Prah Klang then told me that he had consulted the Kalahom and the other Ministers upon my proposition for deputing Captain Macfarquhar and some of their Officers to the frontiers of Tavoy and Mergui to ascertain and fix boundaries, but as it was not yet known whether the English could conquer the Burmese or be able to retain those places, it was considered there is no immediate occasion for the Settlement of any boundaries between us. I pointed out to him that at all events this Court had better take care and instruct the Siamese Officers to respect what we now considered as our possessions. The Prah Klang declared, that the Siamese required neither territory nor anything else from us, if we would only supply them with large Guns for the full value of which His Majesty would be happy to pay. I enquired how many guns, and of what size did the King require. The Minister gravely replied 1000, some of brass, some of iron, some of six cubits length and some of 4 and 2 Cubits, and calculated to carry balls of such a size holding out his hand in a form in which either 24 ℔ shot or a 6 ℔ could have been placed. He added the supply of guns would be considered by the King as the greatest proof of our good will and friendship.

35. The Kalahom's letter directs Maha Ayothia to refer to this Court again what reply the British General may send to his communication and it is evidently not intended to give the Siamese Chief full powers to act. Hence a delay of several months will still occur before that Chief's force can be brought into full Co-operation with ours supposing this

measure to be really intended whilst the character of the men composing this force may be inferred from what I have just learned from the Portuguese Consul. A Native Christian Clerk of his, who had just returned from Ratphree reports, that he saw Maha Ayothia with about 5000 men passing up the Meklong river in boats and that the force was plundering every boat belonging even to this country which came near it.

36. Last night I paid a visit to Krom Meun Rak, the Prince immediately above the Kalahom at the head of the War department. He is a brother of Krom Meun Surin and exceedingly like him, and he is described as a strict severe Character. We were escorted from the landing place to the Prince's palace about a quarter of a Mile distant, by a party of Cavalry men ill drest and mounted on ponies. with large saddles of the same fashion as those in use with the Burmese. Some of the Ponies were from Pegu, and stout serviceable animals, altho' as rough and coarse as in a state of nature. The Prince received us with much civility and proposed almost the same questions as the King and other Princes had done. There is an object in repeating the questions I learn a writer is placed at each audience behind a Curtain to take down my answers, which are afterwards compared one with another. The Prah Klang preceded us to the Palace of both Princes, but as it would have been considered improper for us to see him prostrate before any person, excepting the King and Wang-na, he did not appear at the Audience.

37. Hitherto we have reason to be thankful for whatever civilities we have received from the people. Their intentions are often better than their mode of carrying them into execution. An abundance of rice is furnished by order of the King for the

use of the Escort and our Servants. Our house does not appear to be Watched; and we are allowed to visit freely most parts of the town. The principal Ministers alternately, altho' not very regularly, supply us with fruit and Vegetables. The King's Steward, we are told by special Command he sent us several dishes of meat Cooked in the Siamese fashion and by no means agreeable to our palates. The Wang na also has paid us similar attention, and we have succeeded in obtaining a large boat and 10 men for our use. As long as the Burmese War continues I do not foresee the probability of our being able to bring this Court to any positive arrangements respecting trade and mutual boundaries, and until the arrival of the Governor of Ligor I have deemed it prudent not to touch upon the affairs of Kedah. A report was yesterday brought of the arrival of that Chief at Chimpohun, and I am told he may be expected here within 8 or 10 days at farthest. His influence at this Court is certainly as great as I had previously been told.

38. I propose to forward one Copy of this letter under a flying seal to Mr. Crawfurd by Surat Brig under English Colours the Hamoody Nakhoda Ahmud, which sails tomorrow for Singapore and Bombay. Another Copy I shall transmit to Mr. Maingy at Tavoy whenever I can bring the Minister to open a suitable communication with that Gentleman. Whilst such extracts from this dispatch as appear to me likely to be in any manner useful to Brigadier General Sir Archibald Campbell I shall immediately transmit to Martaban in charge of two Sepoys from my Escort.

39. At the risk of being considered too minute and circumstantial on points of little importance I have judged it best to submit to you in this letter a journal of my proceedings from a perusal of the

facts contained in which, Government will I hope judge for itself as to the present temper and views of this Court and as to the propriety or disadvantage of any continued residence here on my part.

I have &ca. &ca.

(Signed) H. BURNEY

Envoy to the Court of Siam.

Straits Settlements, Vol. 109, pp. 497-666.

FORT CORNWALLIS. The 23rd March 1826.

AT A COUNCIL—Present.

The HONBLE. ROBERT FULLERTON.

Governor—President

WILLIAM ARMSTRONG CLUBLEY Esquire

and

ROBERT IBBETSON Esquire.

READ and APPROVED the PROCEEDINGS of the 16: Instant.

GENERAL

READ the following continuation of the Journal of the Envoy at the Court of Siam to the 15: February with Appendix.

ENVOY at the Court of Siam.

ENVOY at the COURT of SIAM.

Continuation of Captain H. Burney's Journal of his Mission to the Court of Siam.

40. On the morning of the 23rd December I sent down to the Nakoda of the Ahmoody, under charge of one of my own Servants our public and other letters addressed to the care of the Resident of Singapore. The Pya of Paknam stopped my Messenger, although he was accompanied by one of the Interpreters of the Court, but on mentioning the matter to the Prah Klang, the servant was immediately ordered to be released and allowed to proceed to the Hamoody, which was lying outside of the Bar, and from the Commander of which a regular receipt for the letter was brought to me. Intelligence was brought to us this day of the arrival, off the Bar of an American Brig from Prince of Wales Island.

41. On the 24 I paid a visit to Pya Si Phiphut a brother and Assistant of the Prah Klang's, and the Officer exercising an immediate superintendance over the Trade and affairs of the Natives of Hindostan. He is about 36 years of age, and in person strongly resembles his brother, but he is described as a harsh character, much more severe and frequent than the Prah Klang in the punishment of his followers. I found him particularly civil and much more courteous in his manners than his brother, and he displayed considerable Shrewdness and intelligence in his conversation. He enquired whether the English have begun to levy any duties on trade at Mergui and Tavoy, admitted the great advantage of opening between those places and Bangkok a friendly and enlarged commercial intercourse, stated that the King of Siam had once since they fell into our possession, sent persons to them, who had returned with very favorable accounts, and expressed his hopes, that as soon as the Burmese War is concluded satisfactory commercial arrangements may be made between the Siamese dominions and our possessions on the Coast of Tenasserim. Phia-Si-Phi-phut, yet (*sic*) from possessing great talent as well as being of Royal blood, is always admitted into the Councils of the Ministers, and the King is said to place much reliance upon his opinions. The two brothers do not live on very good terms, being jealous of each others influence. On the death of the late Kalahom the present Prah Klang was offered that situation, but he declined it, as it is by no means so lucrative as his own. Had he accepted it, Phia Si Phi Phut would have succeeded him as Prah Klang, his refusal of it therefore increased the unfriendly feeling between the two brothers.

42. On the 24: the Prah Klang requesting to see me on some urgent business, I proceeded immediately

to his house. He informed me that the King was very desirous of procuring from Martaban certain religious works in the Bali language, and would be much obliged if I could make an application on the subject to the Commanding Officer there. I enquired whether His Majesty proposed to purchase these books, but was told according to the Budhist religion, it would be a great Sin to buy or sell such works, and that His Majesty wished only to procure a loan of them, in order that copies may be taken. I replied that the British Government would not use any compulsion to make the proprietors of these books lend them to His Majesty, but that I would address the Commanding Officer at Martaban, and request him to see what can be done. The Minister then said, that His Majesty proposed to send some Siamese Priests to Martaban, to search for the works which are required, and that these men could make arrangements with the proprietors for borrowing, or making copies of the Works on the spot, if I would only recommend them to the protection of the Commanding Officer at Martaban; which I promised to do, on being apprized of the names of the parties.

43. On the 26: the Prah Klang invited us in the name of the King to witness on the following day the ceremony of bringing down the River a large Image of Boodh, which is one of the oldest in the Kingdom, and which all the Court were obliged once a year to go up and worship at Porselouc. To save themselves the inconvenience of such a journey the King determined upon bringing the Image down, and placing it in one of the Temples at Bangkok.

44. On the morning of the 27th. two large boats were brought to us, and we proceeded in them 15 or 16 Miles up the river to the place where a raft conveying the Image was in waiting. Shortly after our arrival the King and Wang-na.

attended by several hundreds of boats conveying the principal courtiers and parties of soldiers with Music passed us but our boats were placed, with a great many others on the opposite bank of the river, as far as possible from the line of the royal procession. The whole of Bangkok seemed to have come out this day and the river was crowded with boats of every size and description, from a Canoe capable of conveying only one person, to boats of 120 feet long with 60 or 70 Men. When the procession began to return, a message was brought to me from the King requesting that my boat should come and assist his and the boats of the Courtiers, to tow the Image down the River. I returned an answer that I was willing to shew every respect and reverence towards his Majesty, but that I could shew none to the Image in which I had no faith. Our boat was then desired to approach His Majesty's, and we passed him twice before I could discover where he was. At length I saw him and the Wang na very plainly dressed, being clothed round the waist only, prostrate at the feet of the Image. His Majestys State boat was on one side of the raft, and the Wangna's on the other, both were very splendid and much covered with gilding. About 30 or 40 Boats with canopies of Scarlet and conveying Soldiers and bands of Music were towing the Raft, while around and immediately behind it, the river was crowded without any order, with the boats of the Courtiers and of Spectators. While returning to Bangkok, the Prah Klang stopped our boat and delivered to me a private letter from Captain Fenwick at Martaban, which the Minister said, had just arrived, and the intelligence conveyed in which he begged me to communicate to the Court as soon as possible. I returned home immediately and drew up the Note No. 1 which I had translated and forwarded to the Prah Klang on the same evening. Shortly after this note had been dispatched, Pya

Phi-phut and the Prah Klang's principal Clerk, Samain Tra, returned with it to me, to request certain explanations, the principal object of which was to enquire whether Captain Fenwick's letter did not take any notice of the proposition that Chow Pya Maha Ayothia had sent to him, for the provinces of Tavoy and Martaban to be delivered over to the Siamese Troops. I answered in the Negative, and desired them to mention to the Prah Klang, that those provinces could not be ceded to the Siamese, without the authority of the Right Honorable the Governor General in Council, and that if Chow Pya Maha Ayothia waited until a reply is received from Bengal, the time and opportunity for his force to become of any use in the war would be past.

45. On this day Captain Kinsman of the American Brig Siren arrived at Bangkok and called on us; He declared that he had no letters from Prince of Wales Island, and that he had passed 4 English Men of War lying in the harbour of Singapore.

46. On the 28: Samain Tra brought to my house Chakaton the Burmese Messenger from Martaban, with a communication from the Prah Klang. stating that the Kalahoms reply to Chou Pya Maha Ayothia was to be forwarded on that day by Chakaton and some Siamese, and that my Messengers and dispatches for Martaban would be forwarded at the same time. I had on the 24th prepared two Sepoys belonging to my Escort Shaik Banoo and Shaik Lascar Ally to take charge of my dispatches, which consisted of a short letter under a flying Seal, addressed to Brigadier General Sir Archibald Campbell, enclosing extracts parts of Par. 8 and 12. par: 13. 14 and 15, part of 16, 19, 21 and 23, par. 27, 32, 33, 34 and 35 from my journal, and put it under cover to the Officer Commanding at Martaban.

I now hastily wrote a few lines in a private form to Captain Fenwick, and strongly recommending the Sepoys to Chakaton, and the Siamese Messengers, saw them depart. Chakaton and the Siamese informed me, that they were to proceed more than one half of the journey in a boat, as far as Lunchang, that they were first to ascend the Menam a little above our house, and thence to drop down in two days by a Channel of communication, called Klong Maung Luang, to Rat-phree on the Meklong, up which river, through Camburi, they did not expect to reach Menam Noi—or the Burmese Paunzeik, in less than 6 or 7 days, as the stream at that time of the year runs down strong, that at Menam Noi, where the Siamese have lately built two forts, they should find Pya Maha Ayothia, that thence through Chaiyok, or the Burmese Dariak, they should pass higher up the stream in 5 or 6 days to Lumchang, or the Burmese Kadeinzen, where Pya Puram, Maha Ayothias brother, is stationed, and whence they should travel by land to Martaban in 6 or 7 days through Pachu-du Samong, or the three Pagodas, My Kazath Zenieh or Athrowe and Uthran or the Uttuan. The whole journey from Bangkok to Martaban would take from 20 to 22 days.

47. On the 29: I paid a visit to Phia Phi-phut-Kosa the Prah Klangs deputy, who received me with much cordiality. He is about 45 years of age, and although he does not appear to possess much Talent or influence, I have found him the most good humoured and well disposed Siamese Officer, with whom we have yet had any communication. He told me that he and his brother, who is Treasurer to the King, are of Pegue extraction, their family having emigrated to Siam, many years ago, together with Chou Pya Maha Ayothia (This Officer has a very long title the concluding portion of which is Rqn a-roong the Siamese for "Commander of the Forces") is about 65 years of age, and has been in the Siamese dominions

nearly 45 years. His father also held a Military command under Siam and he possesses a very numerous family of Sons and relations within his Kingdom. Pya Phi phut further informed me, that the King has given orders for honoring me with another audience as soon as the Governor of Ligore arrives.

48. From what Pya Phi phut communicated to me this day, as well as from what I gather from other sources, I have much reason to believe, that the Court of Siam has not received, with so much satisfaction as was expected, the intelligence of (*sic*) the British Government has resolved upon re-establishing the old Kingdom of Pegue. The best Troops and Artisans, and in fact the most useful subjects belonging to Siam are either emigrants from Pegue, or descendants of those who formerly fled from Burmese usurpation; and any probability of these men quitting Siam is considered as one of the most severe blows, which could be inflicted against the prosperity of this Kingdom, and particularly against the comfort of the King and Court.

49. On the 30: December we paid a visit to Pya Wisset, the Wangna's Pya Phi phut, but now acting Prah Klang for Pya Kray who is on command at Chumpohun. He is rather an elderly man and on subjects of political importance far more intelligent than the Prah Klang. Indeed the custom by which the correspondence with our Mission is placed in the department of the Prah Klang is deeply regretted by me. On every part respecting the present war, or the arrangement of mutual boundaries, he is obliged to repeat to the Chakee and Kalahom whatever he hears from me, and as he has not understanding enough to comprehend the force or utility of what I urge, I cannot expect that he can communicate it properly to the other Ministers. He has generally been civil,

and on some occasions even kind in his attentions to us, but his manners often display great coarseness and arrogance, and his information does not extend beyond that of a common Native Shopkeeper. He is a first Cousin of the present King and very much in his Majesty's confidence. He is a stout dark complexioned man of about 38 years of age, and at home usually wears no other covering than a coarse Madras Chintz round his waist. In matters of trade and in making what is called a good bargain, he is described as singularly accute and cunning, but he is as much fit to be a foreign Minister of Siam as a *Bunea* in the Bazar of Calcutta, one of which tribe he certainly resembles very much in person as well as character. I have endeavoured to have the affairs of our Mission transferred to the department of the Chakri and Kalahom by representing that the practice of placing all foreign envoys in charge of the Prah Klang arose from all such persons having hitherto visited Siam for objects of purely a commercial nature, but that our Mission being connected with the far more important objects of war and mutual boundaries, we ought to be put in communication with the Ministers, to whose departments such subjects regularly belong. I am promised interviews with [the] Chakri and Kalahom although I am assured that a foreign Envoy having communication with any other Minister than the Prah Klang is unprecedented in the Annals of this Kingdom. Pya Wisset took a good deal of pains to understand fully in what manner I conceived the Siamese could co-operate most effectually in the present War, and promised to communicate to the Wang-na, and through him to the Kings Ministers, whatever I pointed out. He candidly declared to me, that the great reason why the Court of Siam desired to obtain the entire occupation of Martaban, before it engaged to March its troops against Ava in that direction, was from its apprehension that the habits and manners of the

Siamese soldiery could never assimilate with those of ours, that to pillage and plunder are regular parts of the Siamese mode of warfare, which the Court could not attempt, or even venture to forbid, that it is established rule in their Wars for the Officers and soldiers to seize whatever property may belong to the Officers or subjects of the Enemy, as much as for Government to take whatever belongs to the enemy, and that as the Court of Siam knows that such practices are not and would not be tolerated by us, it is certain that the conduct of its Troops would very soon bring on the most serious disputes and quarrels between our Army and that of Siam. I remarked I conceived it was a knowledge of these very circumstances, that had induced the Governor General in Council, to order me to point out to this Court to move its Army against the Capital of Ava by the distant and separate route of Cheung Mai or any other to the North of Martaban—where the Siamese could act according to their own modes of warfare, without interfering with the operations of any British Troops. Pya Wiset observed, that he thought this plan most judicious, and that he would urge it on the attention of the Wangna. I then advised him to recommend to his Master also, to order Chou Pya Maha Ayothia, and a Siamese force of 5 or 6000 Men, with all the Elephants and Houses (*sic*) they could command, to March at once to Martaban, and act with the Pegue division under Colonel Pepper as the British General proposed, and that to prevent the possibility of the Siamese Troops pillaging or plundering in the manner this Court found (? feared) that they would, I would engage that each fighting man belonging to Chou Pya Maha Ayothia's force, as long as it acted with us, should receive the same daily ration of rice as what might be distributed to our own Sepoys. Pya Wiset replied, that he would report this matter to the Wangna, but that he found the Siamese Soldier

could not be prevented from plundering whatever he took a fancy to, even if he were assured of a double ration of rice, and one of the Siamese Officers sitting with Pya Wiset, stated that even when the King travels from one place to another in Siam, his soldiers and attendants are accustomed to seize whatever they see or like, without any person daring to prevent them.

50. On our return home I called on the Prah Klang, and learnt that no reply had been given to the note which I had delivered on the 27th in consequence of the holiday and rejoicings in which the whole Court have been engaged since the 26th, and would be engaged until the following evening, in honor of the Image that had been brought down to Bangkok. The attachment that the King and his Courtiers display for the most purile amusements, and that spirit of procrastination so remarkable an ingredient in the character of the Siamese, form very powerful obstacles to the due conduct of any public business in Siam. Patience must be the principal, I had almost said the sole attribute of any negotiator here.

51. My own sentiments as to the delusive nature of any Siamese co-operation I had already submitted in the 15: Paragraph of this Journal, and my own mind was convinced of the impossibility of Siamese troops, even if they were sent to us, proving of any service. It appeared to me, that the great and only advantage that would attend the Siamese moving an Army against the Burmese would be, the impression which such a circumstance might have on the obstinate Court of Ava, which if we may judge from its repeated applications to this Court to be neutral in the present war, entertains a higher respect than we do for

Siamese power. Perhaps the distinguished reception given to our Mission will produce the same degree of impression in Ava. The original letter from the Siamese Ministers replying to my Memorial of the 31st December may for the reasons stated in the text, prove of use to be shown to any Burmese negotiators, and I shall therefore transmit that document to Brigadier Sir Archibald Campbell. Finding however from Captain Fenwick's letter that Brigadier General Sir Archibald Campbell had planned the ensuing campaign, in expectation of Maha Ayothias Army co-operating with the Pegue division under Colonel Pepper I conceived that in my Situation I was bound to use every exertion towards procuring the fulfilment of the Brigadier General's expectation. I drew out therefore the annexed Memorial No. 2 and having it regularly translated into the Siamese language I delivered it on the 31st to the Prah Klang, requesting to be supplied as soon as possible with a reply to it in writing. The Minister pretended at first not to understand the object of my desiring to receive a written reply, but as I conceived that if even I could once persuade this Court to commit itself to me upon paper, I should gain a very essential advantage in negotiating with it, I pressed the point until the Minister promised to meet my wishes.

52. On the 31st we paid a visit to Pya Chula and his son Radsithi. The former is about 65 years of age, and is a Native of Bangkok, his father having come here, as he pretended to me, from Persia although he is evidently of Chulia extraction. Pya Chula informed me that the small pox is now raging at Bangkok—that just before our arrival he had lost a daughter by it, and that a Son of the Chakris as well as a daughter of the Prah Klang's is now suffering from this dreadful disease, which is certainly as described by Loubère,

the real plague of Siam. The Siamese themselves have no idea of vaccination and very little of inoculation which last is sometimes practised by Natives from Hindostan. The Cold-bath appears to be the only application used in cases of small-pox. Pya Chula had never heard of vaccination. His son Radsithi about 36 years of age, is certainly a very shrewd inquisitive character, and I was informed he attends daily at the Palace as the Kings Mercantile Clerk. He apprized me that the Pegues are divided into the "Burmah" or *Siam Mons*. No Siamese or Peguer with whom I have yet conversed appears to know who the *Abassees* are or to recognize the name. A very intelligent Peguer informs me that a great many Pegue families were formerly delivered over by the Burmese to the service of their Priests and Temples and that this race, which is very numerous in several Pegue Towns, is styled "*Prah isse*" as devoted to God, according to the notion to which they are attached, and that the followers of Islaim call all Peguers "*abassees*" from a tradition that the race originally came to Pegue from Abyssinia or that quarter.

53. On the afternoon of the 1st January Samian Tra and Prah Wisset, an Assistant in the Prah Klang's Office, brought to me a reply to my Memorial in the name of the Kings Ministers. On examining the paper I found that it was not authenticated by Seal or Signature and I pointed out to them that as a public document what they brought to me was of no manner of use. Anxious to persuade them to put a seal to it, but unwilling to excite their alarms or suspicions I sent the Messenger back in good humour by observing that were I to submit a paper without any seal to my superiors, I might be accused of having palmed upon them the composition of some old Woman.

54. On the following day the 2d January. Pya Phi-phut brought back the reply to me regularly sealed. He acquainted me that the Prah Klang, being himself a Minister, the Deputy is the person who has to submit my papers to the Ministers and to communicate their replies, and that the present reply was therefore sealed with his Phia-phi-phuts seal.

55. Annexed No. 3 is a translation that I made through the assistance of Mr. Silveria of this reply from the Ministers. Although the language of this document is considered as remarkably civil, the contents convince me more than ever, that this Court has no intention of taking any decided part in the present war in our favor, until it becomes assured of our ultimate success; and this the capture of the Capital of Ava is the only circumstance that will make it believe possible. The Prah Klang assured me on the 31st., that the Court did not require the permanent but the temporary cession of Tavoy and Martaban. I requested him to have this point properly stated in the reply from the Ministers, and an examination of the document delivered to me will show, how carefully the explanation is evaded. Ignorant whether the state of the War, or any other circumstances may not induce Brigadier General Sir Archibald Campbell to try to secure the co-operation of the Siamese upon their own terms, which accord in some degree with the plan according to which Major Canning originally proposed to deliver Martaban Tavoy and Mergui in trust to the Siamese, and with the views also by which the Supreme Government proposed at one time to be guided in the transfer to them of Mergui, I have abstained from rejecting so entirely and decidedly as I could have personally wished, the proposition for our making to Siam the cession it now requires. I drew out this day another Memorial No. 4 and delivered it to the Prah Klang, urging

Para 6 of Major Cannings dispatch to Mr. Depy. Secy. Williams at P. W. Island dated Rangoon 28 July 1824 and Para. 6 of Mr. Secty, Swintons despatch to Brigadier General Sir A. Campbell dated 19 November 1824.

the Ministers to forward to Martaban all the Elephants and Horses they can command and for the whole expense of transporting and feeding of which, I declared my readiness to enter into any equitable terms with the Siamese Officers on the spot.

56. I learnt this day a curious piece of official etiquette in Siam. Any address or letter to a man in Office must be taken to him by the writer himself or by some man of nearly equal rank. It would be considered a great insult to send such a document by a common servant or Messenger.

57. On the evening of the 3d of January I paid a visit to Mgr. Gopolis, the Bishop of Siam Queda &ca., who has been in this country during the last 38 years. He is about 65 years of age, and a very lively old Gentleman of the old French School. He appears to me to dwell too much on the subject of the Siamese being afraid of the English and repeated this piece of information to me as pointedly as he had before done to Mr. Crawfurd. On our first arrival he sent me a message that he was desirous of returning to me his thanks in person for the letters and small stock of necessaries which I had brought for him from the Roman Catholic Missionaries at Penang—but that he was afraid any visit to me from him would excite the suspicious alarms of the Siamese. I stated this at the time to the Prah Klang who laughed and ridiculed the idea of the Bishop giving me any secret intelligence. The Bishop told me that there are only 1000 Catholics at Bangkok and to my observation that I was sorry to see their houses the dirtiest and nastiest of all the inhabitants, he replied that they are too poor to make them cleaner. I fear the Bishop is content with these men calling themselves Catholics, without trying to make them distinguish themselves from Pagans in the comforts and decencies of civilized life. The

Bishop is served and treated by his own flock with almost all the forms of Siamese reverence. In conversation they join their hands and give him the same answer, " Kho rap" (I take your orders upon my head) which they continue repeating whilst a Siamese Chief is speaking, or giving orders. The Bishop told me that nothing can be done in Siam without patience and the cry of " ***Kho rap.***"

58. The American Brig Siren arrived at Bangkok this day.

59. On the 4th of January Pya Phi Phut and Prah Wisset called upon me with the Burmese Messenger Chakola, who had arrived here on the 27th with letters from Captain Fenwick Commanding at Martaban. I found that Chakola and all his people had been detained in the Palace during the last eight days by the King and Ministers, who interrogated them closely as to the strength of our Garrison at Martaban the Stock of provisions there, and the probability of the Burmese recapturing the place. Chakola told me, that he was only 15 days coming from Martaban to Bangkok, and 7 days to Lumchang, or the Burmese Ka-dien-gain, where he embarked in a boat, with which Pya Puram furnished him, and in which he came the whole of the remainder of the journey. He saw about 2000 Men with Pya Puram and about 3000 with Chou Pya Maha Ayothia at Menam-noi. The Pya or Governor of Chaikok is one of Chou Pya Maha Ayothia's principal Officers, whose proper name is Siming Pho-phat. Pya Phi-phut shewed me another letter in the Burmese character from Captain Fenwick, which he said had just arrived from Chou Pya Maha Ayothia and in which, as it was interpreted to me Captain Fenwick repeats his anxiety that the Chou Pya should join him with all possible expedition. I regretted to observe from Pya Phi-phuts conversation, that this letter had

led the Court to believe that our Garrison at Martaban is in the greatest state of alarm, and that such is the necessity for the aid of Siamese troops, that if the Court hold out a little longer it will be sure of forcing us to cede to it the possession of Martaban and Tavoy upon its own terms.

60. I enquired what answer the Ministers proposed to send to my application for a loan of Elephants and Horses, and was told that sending those animals without any troops would be contrary to Siamese customs. I ridiculed this observation, and with much warmth declared to Pya Phi-phut that if the Ministers sent me such a reply I should make up my mind that the Siamese did not desire the friendship of the English, that I should immediately call upon them to explain for what purpose Chou Pya Maha Ayothias and Pya Puram's Forces has been collected on our frontiers and if they were not withdrawn, after it became evident they had not been collected in order to join us, they would most probably be the cause of some misunderstanding between us. Pya Phi-phut, with much agitation assured me, that the Siamese desire to cultivate the most friendly relations with us, and that it had always been a custom for them to send every year an Army on the Burmese frontier. I quickly was led (*sic*) to understand then from the Siamese having sent an army, now that the country belonged to the English, that we were to be considered by this Court in the same light as the Burmese had been? He replied with still more agitation, that he did not mean any such thing, and he then informed me that intelligence had just arrived that the "Las Burmahs", had come down to assist the Burmese, leaving their own country unprotected, and that this Court had in consequence, determined upon moving a force from Cheung Mai in the direction I had first pointed out; and that all the Laos Chiefs in Bangkok had been ordered to return

home for this Service with all possible haste. I expressed a wish to see the Laos Chiefs again before they quitted Bangkok. Pya Phi-phut stated, that there would be no time for me to see them as they were to depart the following morning. On further pressing the matter, I was told that I should see the Chiefs on the same evening at the audience of the Chou Pya Chakri.

61. On the evening of this day I paid my first visit to Chou Pya Chakri, who is generally considered the first Minister of Siam—we were kept waiting in an house adjoining the Chakri's hall of audience, rather longer than what appeared courteous, and were then ushered in with much ceremony. We found the Minister seated on a high cushion, and surrounded with as much state as either of the Princes. He appeared an elderly man of 60 years of age then, but of a much more intelligent and penetrating countenance than his colleague the Prah Klang. The Chakri once conducted a War against Cambodia with much success, and he is described as a man of talents, intimately acquainted with the resources and interests of Siam, and possessing more powerful friends and influence than any other Minister. On the accession of the present King he bestowed on the Chakri the dignity of Prince, or *Sumdet*, but personally this Minister is said to be no favorite with His Majesty, who throws the management of public business as much as possible upon the members of his own family,—Krom Meun Surin, Krom Meun Rak, the Prah Klang and his brother Pya Si-phi-phut, all of whom however can scarcely serve as a balance against the talents and influence of the Chakri. After some civil enquiries on the part of the Chakri, I informed him that our's was the first European Mission deputed to Siam for other objects besides those of a purely commercial nature, and that I was therefore much rejoiced to have an interview

with the first Minister of Siam, to whom subjects relating to war and territorial arrangements must be so familiar. He replied that he would be happy to hear whatever I desired to submit to the King on these subjects. I stated, that the first point that I wished to press upon his attention was that relating to the Burmese captives from Tavoy and Mergui, that I had been promised an early release of these men, but that I had now waited nearly a month without seeing any chance of the promise being fulfilled: The Minister desired me to be under no uneasiness on this head, as the King had ordered the men to be released, and all of them to be brought before me, so that I may ascertain which of them desired to remain in Siam. I repeated that I had waited nearly a month to see this matter settled, that many British Officers would not have waited five days, and that if the Court of Siam did not soon shew a disposition to comply with my application, I should think it my duty to to quit Siam. The Minister stated that it required some time to collect and register the whole of the Captives, but that he would repeat to the King what I had observed, and would urge an early compliance with my application. I then observed that from the reply, which the Ministers had made to my Memorial of the 31st December, I referred (*sic*) that the Siamese do not desire to co-operate with the British forces in the present war, and that if they really do not, I would recommend the Siamese detachments, which had been collected on the frontiers, to be withdrawn, as their continued presence there may lead to misunderstanding and jealousy between the subordinate Officers of the two Nations. The Minister replied that if the Siamese do not assist the English, those detachments will be withdrawn, but that the Siamese are really anxious to join us in reducing the power of Ava. That the Court had just ordered an Army from Cheung Mai to invade the Northern provinces of Ava, and that Maha Ayothia's

force also should move against the enemy, the moment the Siamese are put in possession of Tavoy and Martaban ; which they would hold only in trust during the war, as places in which to establish Depots of Stores and provisions for the use of their Armies. I stated that I had already declared my readiness to engage, that the fighting men belonging to any Siamese Army sent to join ours should receive the same daily rations of rice as are distributed to our own Sepoys. The Minister remarked that I might certainly make such an engagement but that I should be far distant from the Siamese Army on any occasion that it might not be convenient for them to act, and when the English General might refuse to supply them with provisions. I said of course I could only engage that at such times only as the Siamese Troops acted with ours, rations should be served to them ; and that what the Minister had observed, as to its not being convenient sometimes for the Siamese troops to act, made me fear, and were the British General to hear it he would certainly believe, that if Martaban and Tavoy were now at once ceded to the Siamese Troops, they would occupy them and *sleep* and *eat beetle* there, without finding it convenient to act at all, until the war was brought to a conclusion. I added, that it might be a Siamese, but that it is not an English custom to pay a person his wages in advance, and before his work is complete. The Minister then said that the people who had arrived at Bangkok from Martaban stated, that there are only 200 of our Troops there, with one house and half full of Paddy. I replied that supposing this statement true there is an abundance of Paddy at, and Ships to bring it from Tavoy and Rangoon, and that under a belief that the Siamese would really come and join us at Martaban, our garrison there might have been reduced, but that the moment the English General learnt from me, that the Siamese had no intention to join us, a reinforcement

of Troops would probably be sent to Martaban. The Minister rejoined that Maha Migina with an army of *abasees* is close to Martaban and threatning to recapture it from us. I stated, that if he carries his threat into execution, we can very easily recover the place. I then informed the Minister, that it is impossible for the British Government to give the Siamese possession of Tavoy, for the settlement and civil government of which country all arrangements had lately been made from P. W. Island; that this Court had better give up at once the idea of obtaining possession of that province. But that if the Minister addressed me a letter in such terms as I had on that morning pointed out to Pya Phi-phut, namely to state that the Siamese Army should invade Northern Ava, and that Chou Pya Maha Ayothia's force should join the English division at Pegue with abundance of Stores and Elephants upon Martaban being delivered to this Court in trust. and on condition that, if requested to do so it would restore that place to the English at the conclusion of the war, in view to enabling us to make such general territorial arrangements as may then appear proper and necessary, I would forward such a letter to the British General, and ascertain how far it may be possible to gratify the wishes of this Court. The Minister stated that he would immediately mention what I had said to the other Ministers

62. I then enquired whether the Minister would allow me to have another interview with the Laos Chiefs before their departure. He pointed out to me in one part of the Hall of audience, saying that they as well as all the Country to the North of Bangkok, are under his special superintendance, and that they had come that night to take leave, having been ordered by the King to depart for Laos early on the following morning. I strove to have them detained that I might pay them a visit on the next day, but

the more anxiety I betrayed to see them, the more I aroused the jealousy and suspicions of the Siamese. I was requested to put then such questions as I desired to the Chiefs, but I observed that I had no political questions to put to them, but such only as related to the natural history religion and customs of Laos, with which Europeans are imperfectly acquainted. I have since learned, that the people of Laos being a recent conquest, the Siamese are as distrustful of them as of us, and that the Minister apprehended that I desired to gather from these Chiefs information respecting the different routes from the Burmese dominions to Cheung Mai. When the Prah Klang declared that the road from Cheung Mai to the Capital of Ava is impracticable for a large Army I stated that some routes between Martaban and Ummerapoora might be used, but I was assured that none such existed, although an English Traveller, Fitch, in the year 1587 passed from Pegue to Jemahay or Cheung mai, in 25 days, "through many fruitful and pleasant countries"—and Mr. Crawfurd's Map notices a route from Martaban to Cheung Mai in 20 days.

63. On the evening of the 5th January we visited the Chou Pya Mahasina or Kalahom the second Minister of Siam and the Officer corresponding in some respects to our Commander in Chief. The Wang na however and Krom Meun Rak are said to engross the entire management of the Army and the present Kalahom is described to be without influence and almost a cypher in the state. I had previously sent him a message stating that I could not submit to be kept waiting in the Antichamber in the manner we had been at the Chakris on the preceding evening and we were accordingly ushered at once into the presence of the Chief. He appeared an old man of nearly 70 years of age and the most polite and good natured Siamese we have yet seen. Believing that conciliation

is the great object of my Mission. I had hitherto avoided in my visits to the different Siamese Officers to enter into petty discussions as to the forms or manner in which they might receive me. But I found the more I yielded on such points the more a Siamese assumed. Pya Wisset is the only person who presented us with Chairs. The rest obliged us to sit on the Carpet as far distant as possible from their own seat, and with our feet thrown back in the most irksome position. They omitted to furnish us even with a separate cushion, or pillow upon which to lean, which two Articles are always offered to men of any rank. I learnt that Pya Phi-phut had placed Chairs for us on the day we were to visit him, but that Radsithe had advised him to remove them. On this night therefore I took no notice of the signs which the attendants made to us to sit down at our usual distance from the seat of the Chief, but moved on and sat down close to the Kalahom. I then noticed the absence of a separate Cushion and pillow. The Kalahom apologized for not having had them in readiness, and presented me with one of his own cushions, with such true politeness and kindness as to disarm me immediately. Another cushion was brought in for Captain Macfarquhar.

64. After some civil enquiries as to the state of our health and how we liked Bangkok, the old chief requested me to communicate to him freely whatever I wished him to report to the King. I first mentioned the subject of the Burmese captives, and I was assured in the same manner as the Chakri had assured me, that these men would be sent back, the moment they are all collected. I then pointed out the advantage of having regular boundaries established as soon as possible between the Siamese dominions and our conquests on the Coast of Tenasserim. The Kalahom replied that such arrangements could be made herafter, when it became

certain that the Burmese could not return to that Coast. I observed the Ministers of Siam seem to labor under some delusion on this head, as in my opinion the Burmese could as easily come to Bangkok as return to that Coast. This observation was at first supposed to convey some kind of threat on my part, and the Kalahom and his attendants drew up much displeased, but as soon as it was properly explained, they recovered their good humour, and the old man appeared even happy that he had misunderstood me. He then observed, that before any proper boundary can be established between the English and Siamese possessions, much time and care must be taken to make enquiries on the spot and from old inhabitants. I admitted the truth of this observation, and recommended that some Siamese Officers of rank should be deputed to meet Mr. Maingy and other British Officers on the frontiers of Tavoy and Mergui, in order that the necessary enquiries may be mutually instituted in view to the future settlement of a proper boundary and of other matters relating to trade and friendly intercourse between the two Countries. I added that the English earnestly desire to live in the vicinity of the Siamese as friends and good neighbours, and not as (*sic*) the same unsettled and unsocial terms as the Burmese had done; that for this reason we are anxious to have the boundary and rights of each party fixed, so as to prevent all chance of mistake or dispute between our subordinate Officers— that I had urged this matter with all the arguments in my power, and that if any misunderstanding hereafter occur, from these points remaining unsettled, I hoped I should be found to have done my duty. The Kalahom replied that all which I had stated was perfectly just and proper, and that he would report it to the other Ministers, and recommend them to give my proposition an early consideration. He added very kindly that he feared I was sometimes

too warm in my language, and that he would advise me as a father to take things more coolly and patiently; that if I did so, he was certain my Mission would in time be the means of establishing between the Siamese and English nations the most advantageous relations. I expressed my thanks for his good advice, and said that the Siamese will not believe that I am in earnest unless I speak to them with animation. The old man on our rising to depart gave us his blessing and good wishes in the most affectionate manner, and we returned home full of regret, that so fine an old gentleman as the Siamese Minister really is has not more influence.

65. We have now visited three of the Six Ministers or "*Sinabudi*," who compose the Cabinet of Siam the Chakri, Kalahom and Prah Klang, The remaining three are Chou Pya Yomerat, or Officer at the head of the judicial Department, Chou Pya Tharama, a kind of land chamberlain or Mayor of the Palace, and Chou Pya Pollithep, the Officer at the head of the Land Revenues of the country. This last is father in law of the Prah Klang, and the person who exercises the ephemeral Sovereignty in the manner mentioned in Mr. Crawfurds journal. On a certain day annually he stands on one leg during an hour, while a field is ploughed around him. If he fails to stand the allotted time, he is abused and beaten by the populace and during the whole of that day he exercises all the powers of the King and receives whatever customs or other revenues are then paid in. These three Ministers however take little or no part in any deliberations saving those which relate immediately to their own departments. There is one other person of great rank and influence at Bangkok, Kroma Kun, who during the reign of the late King was one of the most active Members of the government and who upon the accession of his present Majesty, retired from all public business on

the plea of old age. He is said to have been dissatisfied with the succession to the throne, yet the King is prudent to show the old Chief much public consideration, has presented him with a pillow on which to lean whenever he attends. which is very seldom, His Majestys Audience. The Wang na can use a pillow in the presence of royalty.

66. On the afternoon of the 6th January, Pya Phi-phut and Prah Wisset brought me the reply from the Minister to my Memorial of the 2d January a translation of this reply No. 5 is hereto annexed, and I hope that the reason which it gives for declining to furnish our Army with Elephants and Horses viz, that to send such animals would be contrary to Siamese customs, will convince my superiors as much as it has done me, that this Court is only seeking to gain time and to seize some advantage for itself, without the risk or trouble of taking at present any part in the War. I had personally explained to the Chakri, Kalahom and Prah Klang, that the Court must resign all idea of obtaining possession of Tavoy for the settlement and civil government of which province all necessary arrangements are now making under the direction of the Honorable the Governor of Prince of Wales Island, but that if it would agree to March an Army immediately into Northern Ava from Laos and to order Chou Pya Maha Ayothia's force, with as many Elephants and Horses as possible, to approach close to Martaban, I would make to Sir A. Campbell the proposition for ceding that place to the Siamese on the following terms viz. that Chou Pya Maha Ayothia should move against Ava within a few days after receiving possession of Martaban in such direction and under such orders as the British General might signify to him, and that the Siamese should restore Martaban to us, if required so to do at the close of the war. It appeared to me that if the Ministers

acquiesced in this plan, it would still be open to Sir A. Campbell to carry it into effect or not, according to his opinion of the necessity or value of Siamese co-operation, and if he judged the temporary cession of Martaban to the Siamese to be objectionable, still no harm could be done by my proposition, but on the contrary some good, in as much as Pya Maha Ayothia's force proceeding to the vicinity of of Martaban would save time, and relieve Captain Fenwick, who apprized me that he is threatened by a body of the Enemy, which the approach of the Siamese will drive away. Martaban is decidedly the best place to cede to the Siamese, should we ultimately desire to make any cession to them, and probably my Superiors may determine, that it would be good policy for us to engage Siam now to take such part in the war, as may hereafter give them a right and the means to make her take a part also in any general arrangements which they may desire to carry into effect at the close of the war. I dispatched on the night of the 6th by a Junk bound to Singapore, a letter to Mr. Crawfurd communicating the sentiments which I have here expressed, and on the following day I desired Pya Phi-phut and Prah Wiset to ask the Ministers, whether they required me to make to them in writing a proposition to the above effect. I was informed, that the Ministers would not insist upon Tavoy, but that there is no chance of persuading them to move Maha Ayothias force unless they are assured of the possession of Martaban.

I then requested Pya Phi-phut in as forcible terms as I could use to declare to the Ministers that the Prah Klang had apprized Mr. Crawfurd by letter several months ago that the Siamese troops should march and co-operate with the English forces the moment the rainy season was over without requiring the previous cession of any Town in the Burmese Territories and that Maha Ayothia had repeatedly

written to the same effect to the commanding Officer at Martaban. That believing in the sincerity of these declarations a portion of the English Troops at Martaban may have been withdrawn, and that if in consequence of the non-arrival of the Siamese force, or before any reinforcement can be sent from Rangoon, any accident occur to the English Garrison at Martaban, the fault will not rest with me. This address appeared to make a strong impression on Pya Phi-phut and Prah Wiset.

67. In my conferences with the Ministers and with Pya Phi-phut Kosa I found, that the Court required the temporary cession of not only the Town but the whole province of Martaban, and that the entire removal of the British Troops from it was a *sine qua non*. I endeavoured to stipulate, that our garrison at Martaban should remain for a time, as its presence might serve to afford the inhabitants some protection against the licentious habits of the Siamese soldiery, but this arrangement was decidedly opposed, on the ground that the presence of our Troops would infallibly bring on disputes and quarrels between them and the Siamese Soldiers. The opposition of the Ministers to such an arrangement assures me, that the entrance of the Siamese into Martaban, should it ever take place, will be the signal for plunder and destruction, unless our Officers on the spot engage Chou Pya Maha Ayothia to enter into some arrangement for ensuring the Inhabitants some degree of protection. I owe it to myself also to repeat here my deliberate conviction, that it is impossible for the Siamese Troops to act in conjunction with ours, and that this Court has no intention of taking any step in our support, until it will be too late—until the capture of Ummerapoora, which event alone will satisfy the Siamese Ministers of our ability to vanquish the Burmese. Under all circumstances also, my opinion is fixed, that if any

permanent cession of territory be made to the Siamese, it should be made not with any prospect, that their troops may co-operate in the present war, but under explicit conditions, that Siam should in return grant to us a free trade with every part of her Kingdom, and restore the Malayan Government in Qüeda. These objects I believe I could obtain were I empowered to offer the province of Martaban to the Siamese Ministers, for they appear to me to fear, that unless Siam secure possession of that province, she will lose all her most valuable Pegue subjects, .

68. Monsgr. Zophis returned my visit this evening.

69. On the 8th of January I learnt from Pya Si-phi-phut that Chou Pya Maha Ayothia's Army was employed, and he believed would be continued to be employed on the Menam Noi, in felling Timber and cutting Sepan wood; and that all the finest and largest Timber for boat building, as well as supplies of that dyeing wood, are brought down the stream to Bangkok from the Hills on the frontiers of Tavoy. He also informed me that the Pya of Chumpohun, of whose illness I had before heard, had died in the prison of the small pox the day before.

70. Pya Wiset called on me this day with some of the Rajah of Ligores followers, urging me not to press the matter with respect to the release of the Burmese captives from Tavoy and Mergui, informing me that the Ministers of Siam have the greatest objection to releasing them immediately, and assuring me, that if I would ask them to release the prisoners at Chumpohun directly, and retain those at Bangkok until the war with Ava is concluded, the Ministers would agree to any proposition which I may make with respect to Chou Pya Maha Ayothias force. I

replied, that I have already been assured by every Siamese Chief whom I had visited, that these captives should be immediately released, and that I could not see what connection that subject could have with the proposition for moving Chou Pya Maha Ayothias force. Pya Wiset told me, that the removal of the Prisoners at Bangkok would so much affect the personal convenience of most of the Ministers, with each of whom a portion of these men is placed, that if I insisted upon their being delivered, the Ministers will show their dissatisfaction by refusing to accede to any thing else which I may propose. Pya Wiset further told me in great confidence, that the Kings Ministers fully believe, from the tenor of Captain Fenwick's letters to Maha Ayothia, and from that Officer having armed a party of Siamese under Pya Ratanachak in defence of Martaban, that, that place is in great peril, and that we cannot spare troops from Rangoon to protect it.

71. I must here declare that I consider it my duty to record the statements brought to me by the Siamese Officers, but I do not pretend at this distance to judge of the truth or falsehood of such statements. Indeed I have found indefatigable lying forms so essential a part of a Siamese Statesman's duty, that it is impossible to given credit to any of their assertions unsupported by proof. Unhappily the Ministers return the compliment, and are incredulous as to any thing told them by a British Officer—an intimate personal acquaintance with Captain Fenwick affords me one very satisfactory assurance, viz. that Martaban is in charge of an Officer of great experience and talents.

72. I had ever since the 17th December, been daily pressing the Prah Klang and his Officers to forward some communication to Mr. Maingy at Tavoy and Pya Phi-phut, and Prah Wiset called on

me on the evening of the 8th January with the draft of a letter which the Prah Klang proposed to dispatch to that Gentleman. On procuring a version in the Malayan language of this letter I found that the Burmese captives were noticed in it without any assurance of their being soon released, I deemed it proper therefore, after all that had been told me on the subject by every man of rank to whom I had mentioned it, to draw up a Memorial No. 6, calling upon the Ministers to give me a pledge in writing, that these men should be sent back. I gave this document to Samian Tra on the 10th to the Prah Klang.

73. Several followers of the Rajah of Ligore arrived at Bangkok on the same day with letters from their Master and from Mr. Assistant Surgeon Harris dated Ligore 13th December. I was much concerned to find that the Rajah of Ligore had not fulfilled his engagement, in consequence of the continued sickness of his Son. No one who has not been at Siam can credit the extraordinary effect which the illness of any member of a great man's family produces. All public business is interrupted and absolutely neglected whenever such a circumstance occurs. During the last 9 or 10 days The Prah Klang has been attending upon his daughter who is suffering from small pox, without taking any notice of public business, or even shewing himself to those who call upon him. Even when one of the Kings women is sick all state affairs are put aside. I hope however that the Rajah of Ligore and Mr. Harris's intelligence, that the child was better, and that they are about to quit Ligore immediately after their letters may prove correct. In this case they may be expected here in 10 or 12 days at furthest. The presence of Champohun of (*sic*) the Rajah of Ligores followers, the bearers of these letters, may have given rise to the report which was brought to us some days ago, of the Rajahs having

arrived at that place. The illness or pretended illness of Pya Thep, the assistant to the Kalahom, who has charge of the Burmese captives was the excuse given to me by Pya Phi-phut and Prah Wiset for not fulfilling a very solemn promise which they had made to me, to bring the principal men of the Burmese captives to my house on the 8th January, in order that I might prepare a list of such as are to be sent back to Tavoy and Mergui.

74. On the 11 January Pya Phi-phut called upon me accompanied by Pya Thep, and several Burmese prisoners. I was shown a long list, which however was declared incomplete of the captives, and I was asked by desire of the Ministers what pledge I would give that the Siamese prisoners at Mergui should be released at the same time that the Burmese were sent back. I referred to Mr. Maingys communication to the Prah Klang pledging that Gentleman to confirm whatever arrangements I might make on this subject. After several hours unprofitable discussion Pya Thep engaged that he would within five days prepare and bring to me a correct list of the whole of the Burmese at or near Bangkok, accounting regularly for every person that had ever been brought here. He believed there are 6 or 700 here, and about 200 at Champohun. I was then asked whether I would interrogate any of the Burmese he had brought, but unwilling to give the Siamese Officers an opportunity of making the poor creatures suffer for any answer they might make me, I said that as Pya Thep was a man of rank and Character, and of course incapable of doing any thing likely to produce a quarrel between our nations, I would be satisfied by his furnishing me with a correct list, authenticated by his seal of all the Captives. I had before been privately visited by several of the Burmese Captives, from whom I had gathered all the information they could give me. They told me, that

the Siamese had not put them in Irons. nor since the arrival of our Mission treated them with the same cruelty as they did the prisoners of former years, that there are in Bangkok about 670 of the Captives; that the remainder are still at Champohun; that of those here, a party of 170 are employed in cutting Timber and sawing planks for the second King, and that there is not one of them but is most anxious to return to his country. One of the Prisoners who privately visited me, emphatically said that he would rather go home to live on rice and salt than remain in Siam with a basket full of gold. One of the head men of the Captives brought to me, named Ta Cheem and about 60 years of age, was gravely said by Pya Thep to be by right a Siamese subject as his Mother was pregnant with him at the time she was taken from hence to Mergui.

75. It is scarcely possible to form any idea of the repugnance which the Siamese Government feels to allow any person who has come amongst them, to leave them again. They seem to dread any diminution of their population; and there are now in almost every part of the Siamese dominions, hundreds of Malays and Natives of Hindostan, who are most desirous but unable to return to their own Countries. Many of the poor creatures have been forcibly brought to Siam, and I find that it is a very common practice for the Chinese to seize Malays who may happen to go on board their Junks at Penang Malacca, Java or other places to the Eastward, and bring and sell them here. I have repeated applications from people declaring that they had been forcibly brought away, and soliciting me to procure their release. When Colonel Schroeyenstein, the Agent from the Netherlands Government of Java, was here in 1821, a party of Javanese appealed to him for protection, and having satisfactorily proved that they had been forcibly brought away from Java, the Colonel repre-

sented the matter to the Court, and requested it to allow him to take the party back. He found the Court not only deaf to all his applications on the subject, but so dissatisfied with his pressing it, that on the last occasion of his visiting the present King then Krom Cheat, he took Mr. Silveria assures me a loaded pistol in his pocket, in view to be prepared to resent any personal indignity that might be offered to him, when he again demanded a release of the party; without which however he was at last obliged to leave Siam.

76. On the 14th January Pya Phi-phut and Pya Thep again called upon me accompanied by about 400 Burmese Men, Women and children, and kept me upwards of four hours in discussing the arrangements respecting the release of these Captives.

I found the Ministers objected strongly to any authenticated list being furnished to me, on the ground that Mr. Maingy declared 1600 persons had been carried away, while the Ministers of Bangkok could account for a little more than half that number. The Ministers desired to send the whole of the Burmese they could collect to my house, in order that I might interrogate them and draw up a list myself. I declined again to put any questions to the captives, and insisted upon Pya Thep supplying me with a list under his seal in the manner he had engaged on the 11: January. Pya Phi-phut assured me that the Prah Klang had added to the letter which he proposes to send to Mr. Maingy, a declaration that the Ministers are arranging with me for the immediate release of the whole of the Burmese Captives. I was also assured, that a reply would be immediately sent to my Memorial of the 10th January from the Ministers, apprizing me that an order should be sent directly to Pya Kray at Champohun, to send back to Mergui whatever Burmese Captives may be there

and that Pya Phi-phut and Pya Thep had been ordered to make arrangements with me for the immediate release and transportation to Mergui of the whole of those that are at Bangkok. The Prisoners that were brought this day to my house appear so eager and anxious to quit Siam and so grateful for our intercession, that we are incited to redouble our exertions in their favor. If we do succeed in ultimately effecting their release, we shall owe our success as much, perhaps more to threatning than to conciliatory language, and I feel assured that the return of these poor wretches to their homes will give infinite strength and popularity to the local authority at Tavoy and Mergui, and reflect real honor and reputation on the British Government in Siam and other places, as well as newly conquered territories.

77. Chakola the Messenger from Martaban called upon me with the Prah Took Krat to inform me that they are to quit Bangkok to-morrow morning furnished with letters from the Ministers to Captain Fenwick and Mr. Maingy. They proceed together as far as Menam Noi, where they are to separate. Prah Took Korat informed me, that his station is at Chaiyok, that he has been three times to Tavoy since it fell into our possession. That the Country between Menam Noi and Tavoy may be traversed in five days. The first three are over a range of mountains and through forests without any human habitation as far as Khai or Stockade Maktat, called by the Burmese Suphroo dat. The 4th day brings you across a valley through which runs the Tenan River to Khai Kuch leaving (*sic*) on Che ik pooa, where there is tin. The 5th day you pass through Khai Wakung or Wakeng Tat and Heindat or Kiocphatat to Tavoy. The first range of Mountains on the side of Siam is styled Khow Sung, at the summit of which, about 2 days journey from Menam Noi, are three towns something like those at Kioe Pye, and named

Narge Dareng. This spot Captain Low visited in February last year, and Prah Took Krat assured me that he found the Cattle which Captain Low had left there two days after that Officer had been there, and that it was sent to Bangkok. I had previously arranged with Phi-phut that two Sepoys from my Escort, Shaik Maddar 1st and Syed Naquedeen, furnished with my letters for Mr. Maingy should accompany Prah Took Krat to Tavoy; and that Chakola should receive a reply from me to Captain Fenwick under cover, to which Officer I proposed to put a dispatch to the address of Brigadier General Sir Archibald Campbell, enclosing extracts* from the continuation of my journal.

* Para 42, part of 44, par 46, part of 47, par 48, part of 49, par 50 and 51, part of 52, par 53, 54, 55, 59 and 60, part of 61, par 62, part of 64, par 66, 67, 69, 70, 71 and 72, part of 73, and Appendix from No. 1 to 6 inclusive,

78. On the 15: of January my dispatches for Captain Fenwick at Martaban, and for Mr. Maingy at Tavoy were delivered to the care of Chakola and of the two Sepoys, whom we saw embark in the same boat with Took Krat.

79. The Burmese prisoners brought to us on the 14th entreated me not to send them back, which I had desired to do, until they were all collected and boats ready for conveying them home; and Pya Thep left them at my house, without making any arrangement for providing them with food shelter or clothing. I ascertained from Pya Phi-phut that some difficulties still existed against the final release of these Captives. The Ministers could not answer my Memorial of the 10th; and as an excuse for their silence, I was gravely informed that if they sent a reply, they would not have any subject to mention in the reply which they are to make hereafter to the letter from the Governor General to the King of Siam. The Wang-na or second King, I understand was making the greatest opposition against delivering the Captives allotted to him. It was he that sent Pya Wisset and the Rajah of Ligores followers to me on the 8th to persuade me

not to insist upon the immediate delivery of the Burmese at Bangkok. I now therefore sent him a communication by a person who I have reason to believe delivered it, that were His Highness to detain a single Burmese he would do irreparable injury to his character and I wrote a note No. 7 on the 16th to the Ministers requiring them to furnish me with a suitable reply to my Memorial of the 10th.

80. On the 19th finding from Pya Phi-phut that the Ministers still desired to avoid making me a reply, and anxious to relieve the miserable condition of the Burmese who are lying in all directions around my house, many afflicted with small pox; with no food save what I give them; with no other shelter than the Trees, and a few loose Attaps, and with scarcely any Clothing, while the Thermometer during the nights and mornings has been so low as 60°. I drew up another Memorial No. 8 on this day appealing in still stronger language to the Ministers, and asserting my conviction that the King of Siam was not aware of the miserable condition of these Burmese. This produced a suitable reply No. 9 on the following day, and my Superiors may now see that nothing but patience and reiterated efforts can bring any discussion with this Court to a satisfactory termination.

81. Pya Phi-phut informed me on the 20th that the Prah of Puttiheu has been appointed Pya of Champohun, in the place of the late Pya whose death I have already noticed, and that Pya Kray is to be relieved and to return to Bangkok immediately. Pya Phi-phut further let me know that the Siamese Ministers do not confide in our assurances that the Siamese prisoners at Mergui will be released, and he stated that the Ministers would release the Burmese and leave it optional to us whether we liberated the Siamese prisoners or not. I engaged, that if the original order, or an authenticated Copy of what

the Ministers proposed to send to Champohun, for the release of all the Burmese detained there, were delivered to me, I would send it to the British Officer at Mergui, recommending him to forward the same with the Siamese prisoners and some of his Servants to Champohun—when an exchange of the two parties may be made. Although I know that this Court is really indifferent as to the fate of the Siamese at Mergui, and that the Ministers place a much higher value on the Burmese prisoners here; yet as Mr. Maingy as well as I have offered to release the Siamese, I am convinced that it will be good policy, as well as creditable to our character, to liberate the whole of the Siamese at once, the moment the party of Burmese arrives there from Bangkok. The detention of those Siamese will not secure the release of a Single Burmese.

82. It would be irksome to attempt to describe the disgraceful cruel treatment which the Burmese Captives have experienced in Siam. They have been dispersed in every direction. Five or six are daily brought to us, and several are said to be in the interior and at the old Capital Yothya. No list of the whole were ever taken, and we learn that when the late Pya of Champohun found that the King disapproved of his proceedings, he secretly distributed many of the Prisoners among his friends in different parts of the Country between Champohun and Bangkok. The King of Siam himself has ever been desirous of sending back these Captives but his Ministers and petty servants deprecate the loss of so many laborers, and are still striving to evade the execution of His Majesty's liberal orders. We have set some of the prisoners to find out what Officers are detaining them, and through this means we have obtained the release of several more men and Women. A woman came to us yesterday in great distress, stating that she and her husband and three children

had been secretly removed to Pak Laat by Belat Khun Thon, the moment he received the orders for their release, and that she had just escaped to us leaving her husband and children at Pak laat. We reported the circumstance immediately to Pya Wisset, and I threatned to make a public complaint against Khun Thon, if the whole party were not immediately released. I was assured that this should not only be done, but that Belat Khun Thon should receive a severe punishment.

83. The head man of the Captives had informed me, that the best mode of sending them home would be through Meong Mai, near Samroyat hills—that Boats may reach that place from Bangkok in two days—that there is a very good carriage road over which women and children may travel in five days from Meong Mai to the boundary between the Siamese and Burmese Territories, at a place named Sing-Khon or Tha-phi—that a small river takes its rise at Taungee, about 2 days journey from Meong Mai, and may be navigated on rafts for 4 days from the boundary until it falls into the great Tinnan River, and that at this place of junction boats may be procured to convey the whole party to Tenasserim in one day. The whole passage therefore from Bangkok to Tenasserim would take 12 days. I mentioned this route to the Ministers in my Memorial of the 19th and in their reply it will be seen that they are of opinion, that during the present North east Monsoon the Coast near Mooung Mai is dangerous and difficult of approach. I requested Pya Phi-phut therefore, to examine the head man again himself, and they repeated what they had before informed me, that the route by Mooung Mai is the most easy and practicable for their women and children, stating in addition that many of them have often been to Mooung Mai at this season of the year, and that there will be no difficulty to approach it.

84. On the 24th January the Prah Klang informed Captain Macfarquhar that Several Junks had been taken up by the King for transporting the Burmese to the West Coast of the Gulph of Siam, and that these Vessels would be brought on that day to receive the party.

85. On the 25th Pya Wisset brought the Husband and Children of the Woman who had escaped to us on the 19th from Paklaat, with 17 other Men, women and Children whom the 2d King had had in employ up the country. Pya Phi-phut, Prah Wisset and Radsithe called on me this day, with the draft of the letter which the Ministers are about to send to Pya Kray at Chimpohun, directing him to release the whole of the Burmese there. I endeavoured without success, to persuade Pya Phi-phut to furnish me with an authenticated copy of this letter—stating that unless I send such a document to the Officer in charge at Mergui, I could not answer for the Siamese prisoners being first liberated as I had proposed on the 20th. I was informed that I ought to credit the assurances of the Ministers, that such a letter should be immediately dispatched; that Pya Kray, after receiving it, dare not for a moment hesitate releasing the whole of the Burmese remaining; and that with respect to the Siamese prisoners at Mergui, the British Officer there may please himself, whether he first releases them or not. I was now allowed however to take a copy of this letter which I shall send to Mergui with a translation No. 10 that I have of it by means of a version in the Malayan language.

86. On this day the 25 January, Tacheem, the person whom the Siamese had appointed the Chief of all the Burmese prisoners died of an attack of Cholera. The fate of this poor man, his dying just as he was on the point of escaping from his merciless task-masters, and of returning to his own home, is truly Melancholy; and

his loss will be much felt by us, as his acquaintance with the Siamese language and general intelligence rendered him almost the channel of our communication with the Burmese prisoners. Since the 20th I have been daily urging Pya Phi-phut about other Burmese from Bangkok. Looking at their present miserable quarters I am only surprised that there are not more casualties among them. Besides Tacheem several others have died since they were transferred to us. Of the 1600 said to have been originally carried away from the Districts of Tavoy Mergui and Tenasserim, I fear the number has been much diminished by deaths. We have not been able to trace more than 600 at Bangkok, and we have various accounts of the number remaining at Chimpohun. The Burmese declare that there are 400 while the Siamese Officers estimate them at only 200. No doubt, the absence of many will be falsely attributed to death. Yet I hope if we secure the release of even 800 or 1000 people we shall have done some good.

87. Pya Phi-phut and Prah Wisset also brought to me on the 25th a Siamese translation of another letter which they said had been addressed by Captain Fenwick to Maha Ayothia, and which repeated a desire that Maha Ayothia should advance quickly to co-operate with the English Forces, and move directly upon Toongho. I learnt from a secret source, that the Peguer, who had brought Captain Fenwick's letter, had laid before the Court an account of a visit that he had made to Martaban. My informant assured me, that he had seen this account, which reported that Martaban had been destroyed by a recent fire, and that the writer had given to Captain Fenwick a very exaggerated account of the strength of Maha Ayothia's force, declaring it to consist of 10,000 Men, 400 horses and 200 Elephants.

88. When paying a compliment today to Pya

Phi-phut, I found that I had unwittingly given him high offence. I observed, in the course of conversation, that he had a good head, meaning that he possessed a good understanding. He took my remark litterally and seemed hurt that I should make any observation upon the form of his head, a part of the body held in great reverence by the Siamese. I discovered that the Siamese consider the understanding to be lodged in the heart, and as I could not persuade Pya Phi-phut that the Head, according to Europeans and Natives of Hindostan, is more naturally the seat of that faculty I transferred the complaint from his head to his heart.

89. The Ministers had in their last letter requested me to arrange with Pya Phi-phut for the removal of the Burmese prisoners, and as some of them were daily dying for the want of clothing and proper shelter, I was anxious to see them depart as soon as possible. Pya Phi-phut Kosa however like a true Siamese could not be moved beyond his usual dilatory course, notwithstanding all my representations of the miserable condition of the Burmese. On the 26: 27: 28: and 29th my Messenger duly came back with a reply from the Pya that the Junks should positively come opposite to the house on the following day. Desirous of seeing him, as well on this subject as to signify my intention of dispatching the Brig Guardian to Ligore, I again sent my Interpreter to him on the 29th to request that he would pay me a visit for a few moments. He lost his temper and returned an impertinent Message, that he could not be troubled to call upon me, but that if I had any thing to say to him I had better come to his Office; and shortly after he sent me a message by the Servant of the lowest Class, to inform me that one of the Junks taken up for the Burmese captives would arrive on that day opposite to our house. I directed my Interpreter to go back with the messenger, and to explain that

such messages and by such persons, were by no means proper to be sent to me, and that I should address a complaint to the King against him. He answered by asking who would dare to lay my complaint before the King. Judging that I ought not to submit to such impertinence, I wrote a short note to the King, and carrying it to the Prah Klang on the following day, desired it might immediately be laid before His Majesty. The Prah Klang considering that Pya Phi-phut is a Siamese and his own deputy, behaved much better than I had expected. He made many excuses for his friend, and strove much to prevent matters proceeding to an extremity—and when he found me resolute, he made Pya Phi-phut declare his regret for what had passed, and his readiness to wait upon me on the following day, and whenever I pleased to require his attendance.

90. On the evening of the 31st we were agreeably surprised by the arrival of Mr. Assistant Surgeon Harris, and my Interpreter Mr. Leal. I had some days before received positive intelligence that the Court had sent a communication to the Rajah of Ligore, disapproving of his intentions to bring these Gentlemen to Bangkok overland, and I had just resolved upon dispatching the Brig Guardian for them to Ligore. These Gentlemen now informed me, that the Rajah in consequence of the continued illness of his son, and from a desire, they believed, of first ascertaining the nature of my reception at the Capital, had delayed leaving Ligore until the 18th of December and had delayed to that time also, forwarding the despatch that I had left for Prince of Wales Island, from an unwillingness that the Honorable the Governor of Prince of Wales Island should be apprized of His Highness being still at Ligore. On the 18th the Rajah set out from Ligore with about 60 or 70 Elephants and 3 or 4000 followers, leaving his wife and Son, who continued

unwell, to follow him by sea as soon as the Monsoon changed. The direction of the route was for the most part at some distance from the sea shore, and the journey was very tedious and difficult from the bad state of the roads and the late heavy rains. In fact, there was scarcely any road but what an advanced party belonging to the Rajah cleared before him. Mr. Harris's observations tend to confirm the accuracy of Mr. Crawfurd's information. I gave him a copy of Mr. Crawfurds Chart of the West Coast of the Gulf of Siam, which with the exception of some few errors in the names, was found very correct. I may take a future opportunity of drawing up from Mr. Harris and Mr. Leals reports some account of the journey, and shall confine myself at present to observing, that on the arrival of the Rajah of Ligore at Chimpohun he received some letters from Bangkok which induced him to put a greater restraint on the observations of his guests, and three days after, on their arrival at Putti-hew, the Rajah on pretence that most of his Elephants were knocked up by the journey recommended Messrs. Harris and Leal to proceed to Bangkok in a boat, which was accordingly prepared, and in which under charge of the Son of the Prah of Putti-hew they left that place on the 27th and arrived at Bangkok, having stopped one day at Samroyat, on the evening of the 31st. During their passage hither Mr. Leal discovered, among papers of one of the Rajahs followers a copy of a letter which the Rajah had written to the Court, excusing himself as much as possible for having proposed to bring these British subjects over land—stating that I had forced them upon him, and that he had given them no opportunity of seeing the proper route between Ligore and the Capital and proposing, that their papers should be seized and examined on their arrival at Paknam.

91. I had two objects for leaving Messrs. Harris

and Leal at Ligore. I had not room on board the Brig Guardian for Pho-Pheuk the Rajahs son, and the Kha Luang Woot Aknee, to whom I gave up the Cabins of these Gentlemen, and I believed that their presence would in some measure ensure the Rajah's joining me at Bangkok. As for a knowledge of the route between Ligore and the Capital, a bug-bear with which the Malays are ever exciting the fears of the Siamese, I knew that, that was an object of no importance, and when I first heard that the Ministers had taken alarm, I desired the Siamese Officer to assure them, that if Siam quarrelled with the British Government we should never think of Marching a force overland to the Capital, as long as we possessed Ships to bring it here without trouble or loss of time.

92. Whilst at Chimpohun Messrs. Harris and Leal understood that there were no less than 700 of the Mergui Captives there, and they heard Pya Kray inform the Rajah of Ligore that the Court of Siam had given very peremptory orders, prohibiting all intercourse with Mergui or any British possession in that neighbourhood. The Prah of Puttihew, who is now appointed Pya of Chimpohun appeared a quiet, mild character of about 52 years of age. He had never seen a European before. Chaiya and Chimpohun were the two largest towns seen by Messrs. Harris and Leal. They are defended by stockade fortifications, and the population of the province of Chaiya was reported to amount to 18 or 19,000 Souls, while that of Chimpohun to 7 or 8,000 only. The River of Chimpohun is very shallow but the bed is sandy, and apparently capable with little difficulty of being deepened and the stream connected with the Pak Chan or Rinnong rivers on the Western coast of the Isthmus of Kraw. The Rajah of Ligore had many presents and a large amount of Treasure with him.

93. On this same evening of the 31st of January I received despatches from Captain Fenwick and Captain Williamson the Deputy Political Agent at Martaban, containing intelligence of a Peace being about to be concluded with the Government of Ava.

94. Anxious to communicate as soon as possible some idea of the views and expectations of the Court to the Commissioners in Ava, I drew up in as short a compass as possible, such suggestions (No. 11) respecting our negotiations with Siam as occurred to me, and applied to the Prah Klang for a messenger to convey them immediately to Martaban.

95. Paya Phi-phut Kosa called upon me as soon as he had heard the intelligence which was received by the Court from Maha Ayothia, who had forwarded to it the letters addressed to him by Captain Fenwick and Captain Williamson, as well as another letter addressed directly to the Ministers by the British Commissioners. I soon discovered from Pya Phi-phut's manner that the intelligence of so honorable a termination of the war was not entirely believed, that it had excited great suspicion in the minds of the Ministers and that they were now, naturally enough, vexed with themselves as well as with me for not having attended to my repeated applications to them to move Maha Ayothia's force towards Martaban. I found that the Ministers believed that after all that had passed between them and me, they could scarcely expect any advantages at my hands, and that they had some intention of opening an entirely new negotiation with the British Commissioners, who had given them the opportunity by addressing them directly—upon my assuring Pya Phi-phut that I was still actuated by the most friendly feelings towards the Siamese and that I would strive to gain for them any advantages in my power, in the peace which was about to be concluded with Ava, he told me that Siam does not require Martaban or any Territory from us, and that the objects of

my Mission refer to the release of the Burmese Captives and to the establishment of a firm friendship between the English and Siamese, and not to such *minor* matters as the cession of Territory. I asked if these were the sentiments of the Ministers, but Pya Phiphut immediately drew back and stated that they were his own, and that I had better address the Ministers themselves on the subject.

96. On the 1st February we received intelligence that the Rajah of Ligore had arrived at Phruphree, and that he may be expected at the Capital on the first lucky day.

97. On the 2d February Seming Sunan-fhu-fat a Pegue Officer about to depart on that day for the purpose of joining Maha Ayothias force, was sent to me by the Prah Klang to receive charge of my dispatches for Captains Fenwick and Williamson.

98. On this day I transmitted a Memorial No. 12 to the Ministers, communicating the intelligence that I had received from Martaban, and proposing that that they should depute immediately to Martaban some Siamese Officer of rank and character, with myself or Captain Macfarquhar, for the purpose of conferring with the British Commissioners in Ava, of ascertaining whether Martaban or any other Territory can now be ceded in favor of Siam, and of making the necessary enquiries in view to the future settlement of suitable boundaries between the Siamese dominions and the British possessions of Tavoy and Mergui. I am satisfied that the Ministers are too ignorant and indolent, and are too deeply impressed with a notion that the British Government is anxious to ascertain the different routes into Siam for my proposition to have much chance of success. But I hope that it will stimulate the Court to communicate its expectations more fully to the British

Commissioners, and perhaps to order Maha Ayothia or some other officer to give them or Captain Williamson a Meeting.

99. On the same day the 2d February the 6 Junks taken up for the conveyance of the Burmese Captives came and anchored opposite our house, and I wrote another letter to the Ministers, stating 585 Men, Women and Children had been brought to me—that 17 had died and 21 were too sick to be removed for the present—but that the remaining 547 could be embarked the moment a supply of provisions and water was shipped on board the Junks. I proposed also, as the Burmese were afraid to cross the Siamese Territories by themselves, to send them under charge of Mr. Leal, who has been acting as Mate of the Guardian as well as my Interpreter.

100. Late on the Night of 3d February the Rajah of Ligore arrived at Bangkok. He sent me a message on the following morning, stating that he cannot see me until he has an audience with the King and has visited the Ministers and Officers, but that he will let me know the moment he has gone through the established etiquette.

101. On the 5th February Pya Phi-phut Kosa and Samian Tra waited upon me with answers from the Ministers to my two Memorials of the 2d. I annex translations No. 14 and 15 which I have made of these answers by means of versions in the Malayan language. Although the Ministers do not accede to that part of my proposition, in which I recommend them to let me forward their letter to Pya Kray through the Officer in charge of Mergui, I have reason to be thankful to them for allowing Mr. Leal to accompany the Burmese Captives, a request which I had feared the notion entertained by the Court of our desire of

ascertaining overland routes into Siam would have made it refuse. The Burmese however urged me to make it, by declaring that they would never venture to proceed to Mergui without some Escort or protection from me. This Answer No. 14 gives another proof to the many I have seen before, that these Burmese Captives would never have been released if the present Mission had not been deputed. Mr. Leal can speak and read and write the Siamese language, and from having been so lately at Chimpohun he will prove a useful person to be sent there in order to claim the release of all the Burmese in charge of the Pya Kray. His acquaintance with the Siamese language and customs, and knowledge of parties at Bangkok will also render him a useful acquisition to Mr. Maingy and the Officer in civil charge at Mergui.

102. The answer No. 15 is an extraordinary production intended apparently to prevent the British Government taking offence at the deceitful promises which the Court had made of co-operation in the war. Pya Phi-phut himself could not avoid joining with me in laughing at the manner in which the Maha Ayothia and Pya Puram's small detachments are magnified by the Ministers into a very large Siamese Army collected from every part of the Empire. As the Ministers however apprized me that this reply had been written without the knowledge of the King I called upon the Prah Klang on the 6th to enquire why my Memorial No. 12 had not been laid before the King. He replied, that the Ministers did not think it necessary, as the King had already given orders on the subject upon receipt of the letters from Captain Fenwick and Williamson. I declared that my Memorial was written under the authority of the Governor General—that by the Laws of Siam it is the King and not the Ministers who are to give orders on such an important affair, and that the Ministers declining to submit the letters of the British Envoy to

the King would naturally induce the Governor General to believe that they wished to do mischief between him and the King. The Prah Klang replied, that I had not stated in my Memorial that it was written under the authority of the Governor General. I pointed out that as the Governor Generals representative I was responsible to His Lordship for all my Acts. I added, that the King had much better learn from the British Envoy and from British Officers which are the English and which the Burmese Territories, and not order poor Ignorant Burmese, to be caught in order to be questioned on such subjects. I returned home and repeated the above in a Note No. 16 addressed to the Ministers, and sent it on the morning of the 7th to the Prah Klang.

103. Pya Phi-phut, when delivering the last reply No. 15 to me, took great pains to explain the difference of Siamese expressions "*Mai ao*" and "*Mai tong Kan*." The former means "do not want or desire," the latter which is the phrase used by the Ministers in their reply to me on the subject of Territorial cessions means, "is not necessary." I gathered from the Pya as well as from other sources, that the Court is very unwilling to acknowledge to me its desire of receiving a portion of our Burmese conquests, from a suspicion that the cession would be coupled by us with some condition which it could not grant. I found a general impression exists at Bangkok that the principal object of the present Mission is to establish a British factory or Resident here; and when I assured Pya Phi-phut, that this impression is erroneous, he seemed surprized and urged me to make such a declaration to the Ministers in writing. I have heard also that some schism exists in the Cabinet concerning the policy of accepting any portion of the Burmese conquests, even it it be offered by us without any difficult condition. Some of the Ministers, referring to the treacherous acts in past

years of Burmese and Siamese Governors of Tavoy and Mergui, argues that if the Court form Establishments in that quarter it will lead to the repetition of such acts of treachery. The English as well as the Burmese they state will have an opportunity of bribing or intriguing with the Siamese Governors for a ready admission from thence into the Siamese dominions.

104. On the 7th February the Rajah of Ligore sent me a message requesting me to visit him. He lives in a quarter of the City allotted for the residence of persons from Ligore, and although there is every appearance of his premises having lately undergone a repair, they are very shabby in comparison with the habitations of the Ministers. But the Rajah appears to us to affect the absence of show and ostentation. and I soon discovered that circumstances had occurred to occasion considerable alarm in his head. I have before mentioned that some dispatches forwarded to me from Tavoy had been opened by the Prah Klang and very improperly translated into the Siamese language by the Portuguese Consul. These papers gave the Court a suspicion, that the Chief of Ligore had been sacrificing the Interests of his country and had been cultivating too great an intimacy with the English. It was the knowledge of the contents of these papers that must have urged the Court to prohibit the Rajah against bringing Messrs. Harris and Leal overland with him, and on the arrival of the Rajah here he has found himself placed in a very dangerous situation until he can satisfy the Court of the propriety of his whole conduct, and of the sincerity, of my friendly declarations. He began by apologizing for his having failed to quit Ligore at the time he had engaged, and said that I could form no idea of the anxiety and trouble which he had experienced, in quitting his sick child to travel to Bangkok at this season of the year. I replied that if I had not visited Bangkok I could never have

believed, that a Siamese Officer puts aside all public business and forgets his most solemn duties whenever any member of his family becomes sick—and I added, that his not having accompanied me to Bangkok had made me also experience an abundance of trouble and anxiety, as I could persuade no one of the truth of the commonest assertion that I had made. I then repeated to him, as minutely as it was in my power, every thing that had passed since my arrival here, and it was really some relief to converse with a person who listened with attention and intelligence, two qualities which no Minister or Officer at Bangkok ever betrayed at any conference with me. When I told the Rajah that the Ministers I had learned were laboring under a mistaken notion, that the present Mission had been deputed to establish a British Consul or Resident and factory at Bangkok, he eagerly made me repeat that this notion was wholly unfounded, and as the inexpediency of such a connexion with Siam had been long proved to me, I assured the Rajah that I had come for no such purpose, and that it was my deliberate conviction no English Resident, Consul or Factory could be established at Bangkok, without the chance of bringing on a War between the two nations in the course of Six Months. I had witnessed the humiliations and indignities which the Portuguese Consul was daily experiencing, and with which no British Officer could put up. During even my short residence here I had suffered indignities to which nothing but my sincere desire of establishing amicable relations with the Siamese would have induced me to submit so quietly. I was encouraged to disclose these opinions so forcibly, from knowing that they coincided with those formed by Mr. Crawfurd (See report of his Mission Pars: 108 and 112).

105. The Rajah now seemed to have a great weight removed from his mind, and he desired me to

be under no uneasiness at the Ministers having omitted to show my last Memorial to the King. At this moment, notice was brought to him that two Siamese Officers had arrived to pay him a visit. At my request he sent out a message to excuse himself from seeing them. But the messenger returned with a communication, that obliged the Rajah to go out and meet them in the adjoining room. He returned shortly after, informing me that the two visitors were Officers from the Palace and he could not avoid admitting them. The Rajah carefully put his apartments in order, begged of me not to sit down too near him, or shew too great an intimacy, but to adopt as much as I could the customs observed in my visits to the other Siamese Chiefs. The two visitors, Pya Ram and Pya Ram Kamheing then came in. They crawled towards the Rajah and made him the most abject obeisances, but I soon saw that they had been deputed as spies to see what passed between the Rajah of Ligore and myself. They put questions to me evidently for the information of others, asked if the Treaty between the Burmese and English had been actually signed and whether we could confide in any engagements or assurances of peace which the Burmese might make. I observed that we would probably not move our Army from the Burmese Territories until the Government of Ava fulfilled all the stipulations of any Treaty which it may conclude with us. But these Siamese Officers seemed to rest satisfied that the Burmese had opened a negotiation with us for no other purpose than to gain time and to deceive us. The Rajah of Ligore asked me and took down in writing the names of the different Territories, we are about to retain, or return to Ava, and seemed most inquisitive as to the Sum of money that the Burmese are to engage to pay us. This payment of money, next to the possession of the Burmese Capital, is the most unequivocal proof we could give to the Siamese and every Indo Chinese

Nation, of the superiority of the British Arms over those of Ava.

106. Pya Ram showed by his manner, that he did not credit what I was stating, and on my assuring him that I had received a Copy of a letter, which the British General had written from the seat of the negotiations he coolly observed "the story comes from a great distance." The Siamese believe that our General and Officers instruct me to utter falsehoods in the same manner as their Government makes a practice of instructing its Officers. The Rajah of Ligore sent me a message in the evening that my visit had afforded him great happiness, and that he was about to wait on the King that night with a report of all I had said.

107. On the 8th a Chulia servant of the Rajah of Ligore, named Sultan Shaw, who accompanied Mr. Harris from Puttihew and whom I knew and found very useful at Queda in 1822, as well as last year, assured me that the King had sent for the Rajah the very night of his arrival, and had transferred to him the conduct of all negotiations with me and that his Majesty having on the day preceding seen me pass to visit His Highness, had sent Pya Ram and Pya Ram Kam heng, who are two Kaluangs to meet me at the Rajah's, and to bring him information on those points respecting which they had questioned to (*sic*) me. In the evening, the Rajah sent me a Message requesting me to send to him in writing, for the purpose of being privately laid before the King, an explicit declaration of the views of the British Government with respect to Trade and the Malayan States. I had for some days before, the moment I received intelligence of the approaching peace with Ava drawn up a paper of propositions to be laid before the Ministers, and had it secretly translated with every possible care by one of the

Officers of the King. I now sent a Siamese copy of this Memorial No. 19 to the Rajah desiring him to take a Copy of it, and I wrote a short note, further explaining to him the expectations of the British Government respecting the Malayan States, namely, that with regard to the States of Queda, Perak and Salangore, the Governor General had expressed his determination to ratify the Treaty which I had concluded with his Highness; and that with regard to the States of Calantan and Tringano, the British Government only required Siam to engage not to visit them with her Armies or to molest them and disturb the Peace and commerce, of the neighbouring English Settlements. I desired the Rajah of Ligore to assure the King, that I can prove every syllable contained in my Memorial No. 19 and to that document, with the Notes which I have added to it, I beg to draw the attention of my Superiors as conveying the best Idea I can now afford them of the system by which our Commerce is now regulated at Bangkok, and the principal points in which I conceive that system has any chance of being ameliorated by negotiation.

108. On the 9th February Pya Phi-phut sent me a dispatch from Captain Williamson, which had just arrived from Maha Ayothia. As this Dispatch contained a Copy of a letter from the Secretary to the British Commissioners in Pegue and Ava stating that a special clause has been inserted in the Treaty concluded with the Burmese Negotiators, by which the Siamese, as the Allies of the British are admitted to the benefits of peace, if they think proper to avail themselves of them, I lost no time in forwarding a communication of this intelligence to the Ministers in Letter No. 17. There was some address necessary not to wound the pride of this Court and to induce it to accept the loan we offer. It really fears the Burmese power, but is extremely anxious to conceal its fears. But this intelligence has arrived most

opportunely, as I was very desirous to prevent the order, which the King had just given, for his Troops to catch Burmese and commit aggressions against them, and I had privately learned, that the Court proposed to advance Maha Ayothia and avail themselves of an opportunity, the moment our Troops retired, of laying waste some Burmese Territory and of bringing away the whole of its Inhabitants. I made a communication of this intelligence to the Rajah of Ligore, who immediately sent a clerk to take it down in writing, in order that he may privately lay the same before the King and Wang-na—and I certainly think this mode of communication, so unusual among the Siamese, is the most safe and satisfactory for myself.

109. On the morning of the 10th February Pya Phi-phut Kosa and Samian Tra brought me a reply to my letter No. 16 of the 6th Instant. I annex a translation No. 18 of this reply, which conveys the sentiments of the King himself, to whom I find the Ministers were at length obliged to submit my letter. They had refrained from doing it before, I suspect because my letter complimented His Majesty at their expense. The expression in this reply that "Martaban is far from Siam" is the result of the intelligence brought here some days ago, that Martaban has been intirely destroyed by fire, and that, that Province is much depopulated. Pya Phi-phut examined a Map of Ava with me, and pointing to Mergui as well as Martaban said, that each place was too far from Siam, trying very significantly to let me understand, that the King would prefer possession of Tavoy. I pretended however to take His Majesty's expression to mean a general refusal of any Territorial cession from us, and I told Pya Phi-phut that I should so inform the British Government. Pya Phi-phut shewed me a Siamese translation of the letter which the British Commissioners in Pegue

and Ava had addressed to the Ministers in the Burmese and Persian languages, and in which as it was interpreted to me the Siamese are promised possession of Tavoy—but I suspect the translation was not a faithful one: Letters addressed to this Court have the best chance of being well understood if written in the Portuguese, Malayan or English language. The letter from the Commissoners was received by the Kalahom to whom all dispatches that arrive by *land* are referred, while all letters arriving at Bangkok by *Sea* are taken to the Department of the Prah Klang.

110. I have not failed to point out, as forcibly as possible, to both the Rajah of Ligore and Pya Phi-phut, the advantage of Siam availing herself of the benefits of the peace with Ava, as offered to her by the British Negotiators. I have endeavoured to prove to them, that the clause in our Treaty with Ava by which the benefits of peace are secured in favor of Siam also, is as unequivocal a proof of the friendly disposition of the British Government, as the cession of a portion of its conquests could be.

111. Late last night the Rajah of Ligore sent me a message requesting me to make some verbal alterations in my Memorial No. 19, and to add to it a more explicit exposition of the views of the British Government with respect to the Malayan States. He begged of me also not to make too free a use of his name in my correspondence as such circumstances would excite jealousy and suspicion of the Ministers. His influence in my favor is exerted secretly he declares with both the King and Wang-na, and he cannot openly act against the Ministers. I learnt that the Wang-na is not only nephew to the Rajah of Ligore, but that the King is in daily expectation of a Son and Heir by one of His Highness's daughters. During the last two days

the Prah Klang was absent fitting a chain of defence across the Menam. This chain has been recently prepared in a curious way. Every Blacksmith at Bangkok was obliged to contribute a certain number of links.

112. On the 11th Pya Phi-phut called to acquaint me that as my last letter No. 17 is very short and upon a business of no great importance, the Ministers would defer laying it before the King, until they received the paper of Propositions, which they appear to have heard from the Rajah of Ligore, I was about to send in. I told Pya Phi-phut that the intelligence contained in my letter No. 17 was in my opinion of the greatest importance to the interests of Siam and that I was extremely desirous of ascertaining, as soon as possible, the sentiments of the King on the subject of the clause which had been inserted in the Treaty with Ava, securing the benefits of peace in favour of Siam. I took pains to shew him the advantage of the Siamese availing themselves of the boon, and requested him to urge the Ministers to give me a pledge that the Siamese would accept of the peace secured for them by the English Commissioners, and that they would engage on their part not to provoke the Burmese or commit aggressions on their territories.

113. On the night of the 12th I paid a visit to the Rajah of Ligore, who told me that he thought the Court would certainly accede to some of the propositions contained in my Memorial No. 18, but at present no declarations on my part could convince the Ministers but that the English desired to force a Consul or Resident upon the Siamese and to take possession of the Kingdom of Queda. The Rajah strove to ascertain from me, whether a refusal on the part of the Ministers to my propositions respecting Queda would produce a war between the two Nations;

and he gave me to understand, that the Court considers the proposed payment by the Rajah of Queda of 4000 Dollars per Annum to Siam, as too small a sum out of the Revenues of Queda, which amount at least to 30,000 Dollars and that possession of a portion of our Conquests on the Coast of Tenasserim is really much desired by the Siamese. He laughingly told me, that the Court would ask the British Government for all the four provinces of Martaban, Yi, Tavoy and Mergui.

114. On the 13th 547 Men, Women and Children of the Burmese Captives were embarked on board the 6 Junks taken up for their conveyance to Bangnarom near Moung Mai. The Siamese shewed to the last moment their unwillingness to lose these Captives, and nothing but strong and decisive language on my part would have ever had them sent back. The Siamese were also, to the last moment, cruel and inhuman in their treatment of these prisoners. Notwithstanding the abundance and cheapness of rice in this Country the provisions embarked in the Junks for the use of the Captives were of the most disgusting quality. Six certificates were given from the department of the Kalahom to pass these prisoners across the Country to Tenasserim, and a pass to the Junks from the Department of the Prah Klang. In the former documents an attempt was made to avoid including Mr. Leal on a pretence that there was no necessity for mentioning his name and I was obliged to return them and have them corrected. 12 or 13 Men Women and Children are too sick to be removed at present, and I hope by the time they recover, we shall be able to discover some more of the Captives, and ascertain where the Pya of Chimpohun dispersed a great many that are not included in the register of the Court.

115. On the evening of this day Pya Phi-phut Kosa called upon me to enquire whether it is the

intention of the British Government to admit of a free trade and intercourse between the Siamese dominions and Tavoy and Mergui. He said, he asked, because no trade and intercourse formerly existed between Siam and those places. I replied, that I had repeatedly pointed out to the Ministers the advantage of settling with Mr. Maingy, who had himself also written on the subject, all matters connected with the establishment of an enlarged Trade and friendly intercourse between our possessions on the Coast of Tenasserim and the Siamese dominions and that the deputation of a Siamese Officer of rank and character to confer with the British Commissioners at Rangoon, in order to arrange all these points, as well as to settle mutual boundaries, had been earnestly recommended by me to His Majesty, whose answer to my proposition, (namely that the English might enquire of the old Inhabitants of Mergui and Tavoy and fix the boundaries pointed out by them) would be received with astonishment by my Government. I pointed out the absurdity of such an answer, by asking Pya Phi-phut if any Burmese, for the purpose of doing mischief, were to acquaint the English that the ancient Burmese boundaries extended to the town of Cumburi, did His Majesty mean that we should take possession of the Country as far as that place? Pya Phi-phut seemed to be struck with the observation, and begged of me to wait a little and not to report to my Government for the present His Majesty's answer to my proposition. He also informed me, that the boundaries between the Siamese and Burmese consisted of a tract of Mountains and forest, which is several miles wide and which could not be said to belong to either nation. Each had detachments on the look out to seize any person of the other party found straying within the tract.

116. Anxious to ensure to my superiors a knowledge of the present state of my negotiations and to

receive whatever instructions they may desire to communicate to me after reviewing my proceedings with reference to the close of the Burmese War and finding it necessary also to procure for my Escort and followers a further supply of certain Provisions, such as Ghee Dholl, and Gram, which are expended and which cannot be procured in Siam, I resolved this day upon directing the Brig Guardian to proceed with all expedition to Singapore and Prince of Wales Island. I duly communicated my resolution to the Prah Klang, and satisfied myself that no objection to it would be made on the part of the King and Ministers.

117. On the morning of the 14th February I presented to the Prah Klang for the purpose of being laid before His Majesty and the ministers, my Memorial No. 19 giving an exposition of the whole objects which the British Government desire, in my opinion, to obtain from Siam. I told the Prah Klang, that if there was any improper or offensive expression in my Memorial, I should be much obliged at its being pointed out to me that I might correct it. My last letter was considered by the Ministers as too short, but the present Memorial, I regret to state, in consequence of the tautological structure of the Siamese language, and their custom of pasting the sheets one to another was 10 feet long. I took care to make an offer to the Prah Klang of the Brig Guardian to bring up for himself or for His Majesty, any Articles they may require from Singapore or Penang.

118. In the afternoon, Pya Phi-phut brought to me a reply from the Ministers to my Memorial No. 17. From a perusal of the annexed translation of this reply (No. 20) my Superiors will judge of the feelings of this Court and people towards the Burmese, and of the temper with which they regard the Clause in our Treaty with Ava, admitting them to the benefits of the peace. The reply is not clear

on one point but Pya Phi-phut assured me, that the King has countermanded the order directing the Siamese Officers to catch Burmese, and if this be true, some immediate advantage will be gained, as time will be given to the Superior Government to fix the line of our future political relations with both Siam and Ava.

119. On the 15th February the Brig Guardian and the Six Junks with the Mergui Captives left Bangkok.

(Signed) H. Burney
Envoy to the Court
of Siam

Appendix No. 1.

27th December 1825.

NOTE delivered to the Ministers of His Majesty the King of Siam by Captain Henry Burney Envoy from the Right Honorable the Governor General of British India.

Captain Burney hastens to acquaint the Ministers of the Court of Siam, that he has just received a letter dated the 5th of December from Captain Robert Fenwick, Commanding Officer at Martaban containing the following intelligence.

The Campaign has been opened by a small Detachment of English Sepoys being attacked by a large force of Burmese, particularly of Cavalry, which were repulsed with immense loss at a Village above Prome, the name of which is not mentioned. Every preparation has been made for prosecuting the War this season with great spirit. A very large Army has taken the field in Bengal. Strong re-inforcements are arrived at Rangoon from Madras. Brigadier General Sir Archibald Campbell is moving from Prome with every chance of soon reaching the Capital of Ava, while Colonel Pepper with a strong English force of 5000 men is about to move from Pegu towards Toongho, and with this force the English General proposes that Chow Pya Maha Ayothia and the Doo-arwudde Army shall act, if the Court of Siam order them to hasten and join the English at Martaban.

The British Government has determined upon restoring the old Pegu Kingdom and establishing the Talliens as a barrier between the Burmese and English and Siamese. Such an arrangement will it is hoped be highly satisfactory to the Court of Siam,

and urge it to the most prompt and decisive co-operation with the English.

The British General is desirous of procuring more Elephants and Horses; and if this Court is really disposed to act against the Burmese, Captain Burney is certain that no proof of its disposition will be so satisfactory, or really useful, as the furnishing the British Army with all possible expedition, with a supply of these Animals; for the expense of sending and provisioning which, Captain Burney is ready to enter immediately into any equitable terms with the Siamese Officers.

(Signed) H. BURNEY—Captain
Envoy to the Court of Siam.

A True Copy
(Signed) H. BURNEY.

Appendix No. 2.

December 31st. 1825.

MEMORIAL presented to the Ministers of His Majesty the King of Siam, by Captain Henry Burney, Envoy from the Right Honorable the Governor General of British India.

Captain Henry Burney had the honor, four days ago, of delivering a Note to the Ministers of the King of Siam, containing the substance of such intelligence as he had received from Martaban, respecting the plan of the ensuing Campaign against Ava; and he now begs to draw to their notice, that if they resolve upon preventing Chow Pya Maha Ayothia's force from co-operating with the English Army, until a reply is received to their proposition for occupying Martaban, a great deal of the most valuable time will be irrecoverably lost. Captain Burney has already assured the Chow Pya Prah Klang that whatever portion of Siamese Troops may be sent to act with the English Army, the fighting men shall receive the same daily rations of Rice as are distributed to the Sepoys.

Captain Burney strongly recommends the Court of Siam to send now at once to Martaban 4 or 5,000 men under Maha Ayothia and all the Elephants and Horses it can command, with orders to act in conjunction with Colonel Pepper's English Army of 5,000 men, which is to move through Pegu and Toongho. If the Ministers of the Court of Siam desire it, Captain Burney will request Captain Macfarquhar to accompany Chow Pya Maha Ayothia, and fully explain to the British Officers at Martaban the customs and views of the Siamese.

Captain Burney begs again to point out to the Court of Siam to send its largest Army by Cheung

Mai, or any Road above Martaban, so that its operations may be quite separate and distant from those of the English Troops, and not only prove a most efficient diversion, but enable the Siamese to secure for themselves whatever tract of Country or property they may take possession of, according to their own mode of warfare.

If the Ministers accede to Captain Burney's proposition, he is confident that the name and renown of the present King of Siam will become very great. Posterity will be enabled to say it was during the reign of the present King that the Siamese punished the Burmese for having come to Siam, by sending an Army to enter in triumph the Capital of Ava, and see their ancient and inveterate foe humbled to the dust.

Captain Burney requests the Ministers will favor him with a reply in writing to his Memorial as soon as possible.

(Signed) H. BURNEY—Captain
Envoy to the Court of Siam.

A True Copy
(Signed) H. Burney.

Appendix No. 3.

REPLY to Captain Burney's Memorial of the 31st of December 1825.

Pya Phi-phut Kosa makes known to Captain Burney, the reply which the Ministers of the King of Siam have determined in Council to give to Captain Burney's Memorial.

Captain Burney recommends their Excellencies to desire Chow Pya Maha Ayothia not to wait for a reply to the letters which have been sent to Martaban, and as it will be long before such reply can come, Captain Burney advises their Excellencies to march the Siamese forces immediately to Martaban, on their arrival at which place, the English will furnish them with every necessary in the same manner as their own Sepoys are supplied. Further, if the Chow Pya Maha Ayothia proceeds with a Detachment of 4 or 5,000 men and with as many Elephants and Horses as possible, Captain Burney will request Captain Macfarquhar to accompany Chow Pya Maha Ayothia; and to explain to the English Officers at Martaban every thing relating to the Siamese Troops, and Chow Pya Maha Ayothia may join Colonel Pepper's Division and march with it towards the Town of Toongho. Captain Burney also recommends that another Siamese Force should march from Bangkok by the route of Cheung Mai, or by any other route to the North of Martaban, in which direction such force will be able to act against the Burmese, without the interference of any British Troops.

All that Captain Burney advises is according to the best of his judgement. He thinks that the routes to the North are very easy, but he is not aware that those routes are not only very bad, but such as render it impossible for a large Army to procure Provisions on them. The road by Martaban

is most practicable, and hence, whenever the Burmese formerly proposed to attack Siam, Martaban was always the place where their Troops were first assembled. For these reasons, the Ministers of Siam do not think it convenient to move a large Army by any other road than that of Martaban, and if that place, as well as Tavoy be delivered to the Siamese, they shall be fortified and put in order for the reception of a large Siamese Army. Such a cession will render the destruction of the Burmese easy and certain; and the opinions of the Ministers of Siam on this point have already been transmitted to the English Officer Commanding at Martaban by Chakaton in a letter which was shewn to Captain Burney.

All that Captain Burney represents as to the great glory which would be reflected on the King of Siam, if an Army of Siamese is sent to beat the Burmese is perfectly true; as the Burmese have ever been the greatest enemy of the Siamese, and now when the latter join the English with good accord, they must entirely destroy the Burmese. If Captain Burney and the English General acquiesce in the sentiments of the Ministers of Siam, when the plan here proposed is carried into effect, Victory will be most certain.

Dated Bangkok 22nd day of the Moon Ay or First Moon 1187 of the Year Raka or Fowl.

Translated through an English Interpretation given by Mr. Silveira.

Signed) H. BURNEY—Captain
Envoy to the
Court of Siam.

Seal of
Pya Phi-phut
Kosa.

A True Copy

Signed) H. BURNEY.

Appendix No. 4.

Bangkok, 2nd. January 1826.

MEMORIAL presented to the Ministers of the Court of Siam by Captain Burney Envoy from the Right Honorable the Governor General of British India.

Captain Burney has the honor to acknowledge the receipt through Pya phi-phut of a reply to the Memorial which he presented on the 31st Ultimo to the Ministers of Siam; and as from this reply it is evident to Captain Burney that it is not the intention of the Court of Siam to permit Chow Pya Maha Ayothia and his force to co-operate with the British Army until the present season be past, Captain Burney requests the Court of Siam will immediately forward to Martaban all the Horses and Elephants which it can command, and none of which Chow Pya Maha Ayothia's force can now require.

Captain Burney repeats that he is ready to enter into any equitable arrangements with the Siamese Officers for the whole expense of transporting and victualling whatever number of these animals can be sent to Martaban, and he must assure the Ministers of Siam, that such an assistance to the British Army as is here pointed out, is the only mode now remaining for this Court to prove the sincerity of its reiterated declarations, that it desires to see the Burmese punished for all the Cruelties which they formerly committed in this Kingdom.

(Signed) H. BURNEY—Captain
Envoy to the
Court of Siam.

A True Copy
(Signed) H. BURNEY.

Appendix No. 5.

REPLY to Captain Burney's Memorial of the 2nd January 1826.

Pya Phi-phut Kosa writes to Captain Burney to acquaint him, that the letter which that Officer addressed to the Ministers of the Court of Siam, in reply to their communication, has been laid before their Excellencies, who desire Pya Phi-phut to transmit the following rejoinder.

Captain Burney states in his reply that he thinks it is not the intention of Siam to send Chow Pya Maha Ayothia's force to join the English in the war against Ava, and that the King of Siam may act in this respect as appears to His Majesty most advisable, but that the Elephants and Horses will remain idle; and that, therefore, Captain Burney requests as many of these Animals as possible may be sent to the English Army; the whole expense of transporting and feeding which he will pay: and further that if the Elephants and Horses are sent, the English will be convinced that the Siamese really desire to see the Burmese beaten.

As to what Captatain Burney requests may be submitted to the King of Siam respecting his desire to pay the expense of sending the Elephants and Horses to the English Army, the Ministers observe that such an arrangement would be contrary to the established customs of Siam; and that to send an Army of Elephants and Horses to receive pay for fighting would be so unusual that the proposition cannot even be mentioned to the King of Siam.

These Animals are necessary parts of the Siamese Army, and if the Army is not able to march and assist the English the Elephants and Horses will be employed on some other service in this Kingdom, and it is not desirable that they should be put in an unserviceable condition.

Whenever the Siamese Troops proceed to co-operate with the English, these Animals can accompany them. Further as to Chow Pya Maha Ayothia's force not being sent to fight the Burmese, the Ministers of Siam have carefully considered, that they must not embark in war without great precaution, and after it is clear to them that they may conquer most completely, for this is the proper mode of engaging in war. It appears to them that it would not be proper for Chow Pya Maha Ayothia to join in the war with only 4 or 5000 men, for what could they do against Ava but be destroyed with all the Elephants and Horses?

The Negotiation between the Siamese and English as to this point remains unsettled, and Captain Burney does not appear to give credit to what the Siamese declare.

The English are very powerful and think they can vanquish the Burmese.

There can be no occasion then for any Siamese Army.

Pya Phi-phut Kosa writes this letter to Captain Burney by order of the Ministers of the Court of Siam the 27th day of the first Moon in the Year 1187 of Fowl.

Translated from a version of the Original Siamese in the Malayan language.

Signed) H. BURNEY—Captain
Envoy to the
Court of Siam.

Seal of Pya Phi-phut Kosa.

A True Copy

Signed) H. BURNEY.

Appendix No. 6.

Bangkok, 10th January 1826.

MEMORIAL presented to the Ministers of the King of Siam by Captain Henry Burney Envoy from the Right Honorable the Governor General of British India.

Captain Burney has submitted to the King, to the Wang-na, to the Chow Pya Chakri, Chow Pya Kalahom, Chow Pya Prah-Klang, and many other officers of rank and authority in Siam, the cruelty and injustice of detaining the British subjects, who were seized and brought away from the Districts of Tavoy, Mergui and Tenasserim.

Captain Burney has been assured by almost every person in authority at Bangkok, that these prisoners should be immediately released, and he has now waited for a whole month without seeing those assurances realized. On the contrary he has just seen the Draft of a Letter which the Prah Klang proposes to send to Mr. Maingy at Tavoy, and in which Captain Burney is astonished to see no satisfactory notice whatever of Mr. Maingy's or his repeated applications on this point. Captain Burney therefore is now obliged to call at once on the Ministers of the Court of Siam, to inform him whether the whole of these prisoners are to be released, and at what period?

Captain Burney entreats the Ministers will settle this affair as soon as possible, and convince the English that the Siamese really desire to cultivate a friendly relation with them. One or two thousand poor Burmese can be no object to the great King of Siam; and if these poor men are sent back His Majesty will secure the prayers of thousands, that his reign may prove long happy and glorious.

Signed) H. BURNEY—Captain
Envoy to the Court of Siam.

A True Copy
Signed) H. BURNEY.

Appendix No. 7.

Bangkok, 16th January 1826.

NOTE to the Ministers of the King of Siam from Captain Henry Burney Envoy to the Court of Siam.

Six days ago Captain Burney addressed a letter to the Ministers of Siam, respecting the Burmese Prisoners, and no reply has yet been received. Captain Burney requests the Ministers will do him the favor to order Pya Phi-phut to make him a proper reply, in order that Captain Burney may be able to forward the same to the Right Honorable the Governor General immediately.

Signed) H. BURNEY—Captain
Envoy to the
Court of Siam.

A True Copy
Signed) H, BURNEY.

Appendix No. 8.

Bangkok, 19th January 1826.

MEMORIAL submitted to the Ministers of the King of Siam by Captain Henry Burney Envoy from the Right Honorable the Governor of British India.

Captain Burney must again request the Ministers of the Court of Siam to reply to his Memorial of the 10th January, and to let him know when it is their intention to send back the Burmese Captives, and when the Prisoners at Chimpohun are to be released. In every Country the letters of an Envoy are regularly answered.

He also begs to acquaint the Ministers that upwards of 450 of the Burmese Men Women and Children have been brought and set at liberty near his house, without any arrangement for supplying them with food, shelter or clothing, which is so necessary during this cold weather.

He is confident that the great King of Siam is not aware that many of these poor Creatures are suffering from Small Pox and from want of food and Clothing.

Captain Burney from a sincere desire of not doing any thing that may lower the character of the Siamese Nation in the eyes of the English, does not wish to report to the Governor General the melancholy condition of these poor captives. He only begs the Ministers will issue orders that the necessary arrangements may be immediately made for supplying these Burmese with food, and with a sufficient number of Boats to convey as many of them as are now collected to the Mooung Mai near Sam-roi-yot, whence Captain Burney understands they can most easily return to their own homes at Tenasserim and Mergui. The rest of the Captives can be forwarded in the same manner according as they are collected.

Signed) H. BURNEY—Captain
Envoy to the Court of Siam.

A True Copy

Signed) H. BURNEY.

Appendix No. 9.

REPLY to Captain Burney's Memorials of the 10th and 14th and *Note* of the 16th January 1826.

PYA PHI PHUT KOSA inscribes the reply which their Excellencies the whole Six Ministers make to Captain Burney.

Captain Burney desires to know when the men who have been brought to Siam from Mergui are to be released, and when those remaining at Chimpohun are to be sent back. The Ministers state that the men who have been brought to Siam will be delivered to Captain Burney by Pya Thep Worochan, Pya Phi-phut Kosa, and Pya Wisoot Kosa;—480 people more or less have been collected: there are others who are at a distance, and with whom those that have been sent to bring them down, have not yet arrived. But according as they arrive the whole shall be delivered to Captain Burney, and an enquiry may be made as to the number that were brought to Siam, the number (*that*) fell sick and died on the road, and the number remaining, the whole of which will be allowed to return as soon as a proper List is prepared. This enquiry should be first made, and the whole of the men should be sent at one time, and not at different times.

"With respect to the men remaining at Chimpohun an Order shall be sent to Pya Kray Kosa, directing him, after arranging and assembling the whole to release them at once.

If Captain Burney desires to send some of his own people with the letter to Chimpohun or to make any other arrangement on the subject, he is requested to communicate his wishes to the Pya Phi-phut Kosa.

As to what Captain Burney observes with respect to the Burmese Men, Women and Children who have

been released at his house, that they are suffering much from sickness, and from having no shelter, food or clothing, that he is filled with sorrow, but that he does not wish to report this to Bengal. The Ministers had ordered Pya Thep Worochan, Pya Phi phut Kosa, and Pya Wisoot Kosa to take and shew these men to Captain Burney, and to number them, and those officers told Captain Burney that the whole of the men had not arrived, but that he might count them and then send them back to their former dwellings, where they should receive food and Clothing, until the whole were collected and they were ready to be sent away alltogether.

If Captain Burney thinks these people are suffering, he can send them back to their former dwellings, and when the whole are collected they can be sent away together. But these Burmese are Enemies, and if they experience any suffering, however great, the Siamese cannot feel any pity for them. Because the Siamese desired to cultivate the friendship of the English, these Burmese had not Irons put upon them; and because the Governor General of Bengal has sent Captain Burney to establish the road of friendship, the present business of allowing these men to go back has been settled. As to what Captain Burney declares as to his unwillingness to let the English in Bengal know of the sufferings of these Burmese, that is not the affair of the Ministers—he may or may not do it according to his own pleasure.

What Captain Burney observes, that in every Country an Envoy is certain of receiving replies to whatever letters he may write, if Captain Burney sends a letter on a subject which cannot be settled by verbal communication, he will receive a reply thereto, but on a subject that can be settled by a verbal communication, there is

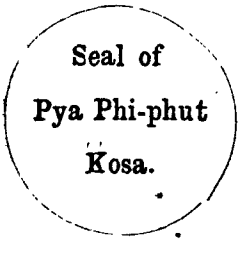
no occasion for a letter. And as to Captain Burney's desiring to send these men by the road of Mooung Mai, during this season of strong North East winds, Boats pass and repass with great difficulty. When these men depart for the Western Coast, we cannot hope to give orders where the Sea is concerned. Perhaps the Boats may be lost or dispersed in a strong wind. Captain Burney might not credit such a circumstance, and it would not accord with the sincere intentions of the Ministers. They therefore request Captain Burney will enquire from the Burmese themselves, whether the road to Martaban and Tavoy, or that by Pech puri will not be the most secure.

Whatever Captain Burney determines on this point, let him communicate to Pya Phi-phut, and whenever the whole of the men are collected, and all preparations made, they shall be finally sent away.

This letter is writen on Friday the 13th day of the 2nd Month in the Year 1187 of Fowl.

Translated by means of a version
in the Malayan language.

Signed) H. BURNEY—Captain
Envoy to the
Court of Siam.



A True Copy

Signed) H. BURNEY.

Appendix No. 10.

LETTER from Chow Pya Ac-Maha Sina thibody Oopih pire bura Krom a Pakok Suma Kok Prah Kalahom to Pya Kray Kosa thibody.

Moreover in the present month of the year Fowl, the Governor General of Bengal deputed Captain Henry Burney with letters to Siam, stating that the Governor General of Bengal was exceedingly rejoiced at hearing that the King of Siam had recently ascended the Throne, and that he had prepared Captain Burney as his representative to bring presents and offerings of respect upon his head to the feet of His Excellent Majesty of Siam, and to desire respectfully the establishment of friendship good offices and enlarged commercial intercourse with the Kingdom of Siam. And with respect to the inhabitants of Mergui, whom the Pya of Chimpohun had seized and brought away here, the letters state, that the English have completed the conquest of the Countries of Tavoy and Mergui, which now belong to the English, and that the Governor General of Bengal desires that the men and women whom the Pya of Chimpohun had seized may be sent back and allowed to dwell in their former homes, and that he would order the men of Chimpohun, whom the English have seized and detained at Mergui, to be released and sent back at the same time. Captain Burney has been presented to testify respect at the feet of His Excellent Majesty of Siam, who is most exalted, just and benevolent and who having learned all these things, passed the following orders.

The Country of Bengal has become great and the Governor General has deputed Captain Burney with letters, in order to testify respect and to establish the road of friendship with Siam. Let the great Officers make all proper arrangements, and give

Captain Burney a suitable place of residence, conformable with the customs observed with respect to the most friendly State.

Further, what the Governor General desires with respect to the return of the Mergui inhabitants, who were made prisoners, and the release of the men of Chimpohun, a letter was formerly sent to the English Governor at Mergui, stating that such of the Prisoners as desired to remain should be allowed to remain according to their pleasure, and that such as desired to return to their former homes should be sent back. But now the Governor General of Bengal has deputed Captain Burney to speak on this business, and to settle according as it had formerly been agreed. As to the men of Chimpohun, whom the English have seized and detained at Mergui, Captain Burney has come by order of the Governor General of Bengal, and spoken and stipulated for their release, and the Governor of Mergui has also sent several letters to this effect. The English may or may not do right, and release the people of Chimpohun, according to their agreement—no matter—the number of these people is small. In this manner we know how to make war with Ava, and to destroy many of her inhabitants, and she possesses a great many. Let us only know the disposition of the English.

'Let such of the Captive Burmese of Mergui as are at Bangkok, and as desire to continue here with their friends or connexions remain, according to their pleasure, and let such as desire to return, be given to Captain Burney, and let Boats be taken up for those who desire to return, and let them be conveyed to Bangnarom and set at liberty at once to return to their own homes. With respect to those Mergui captives who are at Chimpohun, let Pya Kray Kosa be ordered to prepare a List shewing how many have died, and how many are

still living. Do not let any of them be troubled, or dragged and brought to Bangkok, or concealed in any places. But let Pya Kray Kosa enquire and see if any desire to continue with their friends or connexions at Chimpohun, and let such be given in charge of the new Pya of Chimpohun. But let all such of those captives as desire to return home, go home, according to any road they please. Let Pya Kray furnish suitable food to them according to the length of the Road, and when Pya Kray Kosa has settled his business and sent away the prisoners let him come to Bangkok and make a report of it.

Letter written on Sunday in the year Fowl

Translated by means of a version
in the Malayan language
Signed) H. BURNEY—Captain
Envoy to the
Court of Siam.

A True Copy
Signed) H. BURNEY.

Appendix No. 12.

MEMORIAL submitted to the Ministers of the King of Siam by Captain Henry Burney Envoy from the Right Honorable the Governor General of British India.

Captain Henry Burney has the honor to apprize the Ministers of Siam, that he has received letters containing intelligence that the Burmese had been so severely and completely defeated by the English Army in a battle which lasted for three days near Prome, that they have sent Envoys to the English General to sue for peace, which is about to be concluded on the following terms. Namely—The Cession of Assam and other States in that quarter, the four Provinces of Ye, Tavoy, Mergui and Tenasserim to the English Government besides a large sum of Money towards indemnifying the English for the expenses of the war.

The issue of this war, will, therefore, now augment the honor and glory of the English Government, and Captain Burney appeals to the Ministers of Siam, whether since his arrival at Bangkok he has not used every possible exertion to induce them to move Chow Pya Maha Ayothias Army towards Martaban and to secure for the King of Siam a portion of this honor and glory.

Captain Burney was unfortunately unable to win the confidence of the Ministers, and the customs of the Country prevented his addressing directly the King of Siam, whom Captain Burney considers as not only the greatest but the most enlightened personage at Bangkok.

Captain Burney is still actuated by the most friendly dispositions towards Siam, and in proof of this assertion he now proposes to the King and Ministers of Siam to depute immediately to Martaban some Siamese Officer of rank and character, in company with Captain Burney or Captain Macarquhar for the purpose of conferring with the British Commissioners in Ava, of ascertaining whether Martaban or any other territory can be now ceded in favor of Siam, and of making the necessary enquiries in view to the future settlement of boundaries between the Siamese dominions and the British Possessions at Tavoy and Mergui.

Captain Burney requests the Ministers will once more peruse the letter which he presented to the King of Siam from the Governor General, and then determine whether the proposition which Captain Burney now makes is not of the most friendly character, and one likely to prove highly advantageous to the interests of Siam.

Signed) H. BURNEY—Captain
Envoy to the
Court of Siam.

A True Copy
Signed) H. BURNEY.

Appendix No. 13.

Bangkok, 2d February 1826.

NOTE addressed by Captain H. Burney Envoy from the Right Honorable the Governor General of British India, to the Ministers of the King of Siam.

Captain Burney requests the Siamese Ministers will accept his best acknowledgments for their letter communicating the information that Pya Phi-phut Kosa had been ordered to make every arrangement in concert with Captain Burney for the immediate return of the Burmese Prisoners to Mergui. 585 Burmese men women and Children have been brought to Captain Burney, of these 17 are dead and 21 are too sick to be removed for the present. The remaining 547 will be embarked on board the six Junks that have been taken up, the moment the Siamese Ministers give directions for a supply of provisions and water to be shipped. But these Burmese are afraid to proceed by themselves across the Siamese Territories, and Captain Burney is therefore obliged to request the Ministers will allow an officer from the Brig Guardian to accompany these men to Mergui. With respect to the Burmese at Chimpohun, Captain Burney recommends the Siamese Ministers to allow him to forward through the English Governor of Mergui, their order to the Pya of Chimpohun for releasing all Prisoners under his charge. Such a mode of forwarding the order will serve to open a good understanding between the English and Siamese Governors, who are situated so near to each other.

Signed) H. BURNEY—Captain
Envoy to the
Court of Siam.

A True Copy
Signed) H. BURNEY.

Appendix No. 14.

REPLY to Captain Burney's Note No. 13 of the 2nd February 1826.

Pya Phi-phut Kosa has to communicate to Captain Burney the reply of the six Ministers.

Captain Burney states that he has received 585 Captives from Pya Thep Worochan, and Pya Wisoot Kosa, that 17 of them have died and 21 are too sick to be able to be moved, that those who are well can be first sent, and that Captain Burney desires provisions may be supplied for their use, that the Burmese are afraid of the Siamese, and that Captain Burney requests an officer of the Ship may be sent with the Captives to Mergui Tavoy and Tenasserim. Captain Burney further desires that the letter which the Ministers have written to Pya Kray Kosa may be sent at the same time, that it may be given to the English Officer at Mergui, so that he may forward it to the Pya of Chimpohun, by which means a friendship will be established between the Governor of Mergui and the Pya of Chimpohun, which two Countries are near to each other. The Ministers observe that as many of the Burmese Captives as are well may be sent first, and that with respect to Captain Burney's desire of sending an Officer from the Brig with the Burmese to Mergui and Tavoy, Captain Burney may do this if he pleases, and with respect to the provisions for these Captives, Captain Burney is requested to communicate to Pya Phi-phut Kosa the number of men, and quantity of provisions required for them, and when the sick Burmese are well, they can be sent also, if Captain Burney will apply to Pya Phi-phut Kosa, who will prepare Boats and Provisions for them. As for the Burmese Captives who are remaining at Chimpohun, is Captain Burney uneasy about them, and does he think that Pya Kray Kosa will not let them return?

Captain Burney is come on the road of friendship, and the King of Siam has ordered every Captive that was brought away, and that is on the Register, to be allowed to return. But those who are remaining at Chimpohun, Pya Kray Kosa will certainly release agreeably to the order which he will receive. Do not let Captain Burney be uneasy about these Captives. And as to Captain Burney's desire that the order, which is to be sent to Pya Kray Kosa, may be forwarded through the English Governor of Mergui, which is near Chimpohun, and between which two Countries friendship should be established. This is right, and may be done even if this letter is not sent, because, as the great Countries have become friends, the small ones will follow them on the road of friendship. Do not let Captain Burney be uneasy, and let him be assured that the whole of the Burmese Captives will be released.

This letter is written on Thursday the 28th day of the 2d Month in the year Fowl.

Translated by means of a version
in the Malayan language.

Signed) H. BURNEY—Captain
Envoy to the
Court of Siam.

Seal of
Pya Phi-phut
Kosa.

Appendix No. 15.

REPLY to Captain Burney's Memorial No. 12 of the 2nd. February 1826.

What Captain Burney has written in his letter to the Six Ministers, declaring that the English have defeated the Burmese near Prome, and that the King of Ava has deputed an Envoy to Melloon, with letters stating that the Countries of Assam, Arracan, Ye, Mergui, Tavoy and Tenasserim shall belong to the English, and that His Majesty will disburse to the English the Expences of the War, and that the English General is about to accept of this offer. That Captain Burney desires that the King of Siam may depute some Siamese officer of rank and character, with Captain Burney or Captain Macfarquhar, to confer with the English General at Martaban or Rangoon, and to try to secure for His Majesty of Siam, Martaban, or some other territory, and to settle boundaries and various other matters, all of which Pya Phi-phut Kosa has heard from Captain Burney and duly communicated to the Ministers.

The Ministers reply, that the English General sent a letter by Chakaton, stating that the Burmese are wicked men, that they are the enemies of every Country, and desire to destroy the English, for which reason the English had sent Armies to attack them—that the Siamese also are ancient Enemies of the Burmese, and that the English and Siamese are on terms of friendship and good intercourse, and that the English request the King of Siam would send an Army to co-operate with the English in fighting with the Burmese, until they reach the Capital of Ava, and until the Burmese, who are the Enemies of the Siamese, as well as of the English are utterly destroyed, when both the English and Siamese would live in peace and quiet.

The King of Siam was much pleased with the contents of that letter from the English, and determined that the Siamese should co-operate with the English in the war with Ava, with not a small force but a large one, which might move against Ava in one direction, whilst the English attacked it by another route. And a reply was sent to that letter, stating, that if the Siamese could have entire possession of the Countries of Tavoy and Martaban, a very large Army should be sent. This was communicated to Captain Burney, and he was told, that if the English General acceded to the proposition of the Siamese Ministers, the Armies of Siam should be sent. But the English Commanding Officer at Martaban sent letters many times, requesting only the Siamese forces to advance quickly, without giving any reply respecting Tavoy and Martaban. A portion of the Peguers and Tavoyans are connected with the Burmese, and are the old Enemies of the Siamese ; and if the King of Siam could not receive entire possession of their Country, the Siamese Army could not go there with any confidence.

The Ministers believe, that the English desired to retain possession of Martaban and Tavoy, and that, therefore, they would give no decided answer on that subject ; and it was for this reason that the Siamese Army was waiting, and was prevented from advancing. But now it is said that the King of Ava has sent an Envoy to Melloon, offering to defray the expenses of the war, and that the English have made peace with the Burmese. The Siamese Troops, therefore, can now be of no use.

As to what Captain Burney desires that a Siamese Officer of rank and character should go and confer with the English General, in order that Martaban, or some other Country may be ceded to the King of Siam, the Ministers return many thanks to Captain Burney.

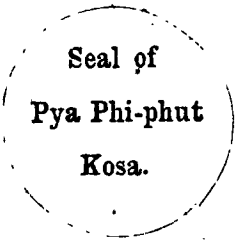
The application which was formerly made for Tavoy and Martaban was made in view that the Siamese Army should go and co-operate with the English and destroy the Burman territories. But the Siamese have not been able to go and assist in the War against the Burmese, and the English are now to be at peace with Ava. The countries of Tavoy and Martaban, which the English have conquered, have become their possessions, and the Siamese do not covet Countries for nothing. What were the boundaries of those Countries when belonging to the Burmese, can be now the boundaries of the English, and the Siamese do not desire to infringe on the boundaries of the English. Do not let Captain Burney be uneasy. The Governor General of Bengal has deputed him to improve friendship and Commerce. The Siamese are extremely pleased with what Captain Burney has come to perform, and desire that trade and friendly intercourse between the English and Siamese may become much greater than formerly. As to what Captain Burney requests may be submitted to the King of Siam, there is now no occasion for it. The Ministers have here communicated what the King ordered when Chow Piya Maha Ayothia forwarded the letter from the English General stating that the Burmese had sent a Flag of Truce to Melloon to solicit peace from the English, and desiring that the Siamese forces should not advance, but remain for the present where they were. When the contents of that letter were made known to the King His Majesty ordered the Ministers to write to the Governors of the Siamese provinces to remand all the Troops which had been collected for the purpose of co-operating with the English, as the Burmese had made peace with them.

The Countries of Tavoy and Martaban, for which the Ministers have written to the English on account of the Siamese Armies are now not necessary. Let the Siamese forces be ordered to return to their

respective homes, and the Chief Officers of Provinces directed to keep guard at their respective Stations, and to catch Burmese in order to ascertain which Countries have been conquered or restored to the Burmese by the English, and to gather intelligence according to former custom. The Ministers having heard these orders of the King of Siam have refrained from submitting Captain Burney's letter to his Majesty. Pya Phi-phut Kosa has written this letter by order of the 6 Ministers to Captain Burney on Sunday the 24th day of the 2d (Second) Month in the Year Fowl 1187.

Translated by means of a version
in the Malayan language.

Signed) H. BURNEY—Captain
Envoy to the
Court of Siam.



Appendix No. 16.

Bangkok, 6th February 1826.

NOTE addressed by Captain Henry Burney Envoy from the Right Honorable the Governor General of British India to the Ministers of the King of Siam.

The Ministers tell Captain H. Burney that they have not laid his last letter before the King of Siam. Whatever letters Captain Burney writes to the Ministers, he writes under the authority of the Right Honorable the Governor General of India; and Captain Burney is particularly careful that his communications manifest the utmost respect towards His Majesty of Siam, who is a great King.

If the Ministers do not submit Captain Burney's letters to the King, of course the Governor General will believe that they wish to do mischief between him and the King of Siam. This will be a very serious affair; and Captain Burney therefore begs that the Ministers will not omit to lay his last letter before the King. It is the King and not the Ministers, who ought, by the Laws of Siam, to give orders on such important business.

Further, the Siamese had better learn from the British Envoy and from British Officers, which are the English and which the Burmese Countries, and not order poor Burmese, who know nothing, to be caught for such purposes.

Captain Burney again recommends the Ministers to depute a Siamese Officer of rank and character to Martaban, in order to ascertain, now that the War is over, the exact situation of the English, Burmese and Siamese boundaries. This is the road of friendship.

Signed) H. BURNEY—Captain
Envoy to the
Court of Siam.

A True Copy
Signed) H. BURNEY.

Appendix No. 17.

Bangkok, 9th February 1826.

Letter addressed by Captain Henry Burney, Envoy from the Governor General of British India to the Ministers of the King of Siam.

Captain Burney has to apprize the Ministers of Siam, that he has just received the Copy of a letter from the British General at Petanago, stating that in the Treaty which he has concluded with the Burmese Negotiators, a special Clause has been inserted, by which the Siamese as the Allies of the English are admitted to the benefits of peace, if they think proper to avail themselves of them.

As the Burmese have now engaged not to make War, or commit depredations against the Siamese in any quarter, Captain Burney requests the Ministers will lay the letter which he addressed to them on the 2nd instant, as well as this letter immediately before the King, who will see the propriety of directing that the Siamese also shall not make war, or commit depredations against the Burmese in any quarter.

The present intelligence must convince His Majesty and the Ministers that the British Government is actuated by the most sincere friendly dispositions towards the Siamese Nation.

Signed) H. BURNEY—Captain
Envoy to the
Court of Siam.

A True Copy

Signed) H. BURNEY.

Appendix No. 18.

REPLY to Captain Burney's Memorial No. 12 of the 2nd February, and Note No. 16 of the 6th February.

The Ministers having assembled, desired Chow Pya Phra Klang to lay before His Majesty the King of Siam Captain Burney's last last letter.

His Majesty having read the letter and understood its contents, issued the following orders. The Country of Siam has from the earliest times, for more than 100 years, been engaged in wars with Ava, and we have never heard of the whole race of our Kings ever making a good return to the Burmese, or of restoring any territory conquered.

As to what Captain Burney thinks in his active and zealous mind, of proceeding to Martaban, and obtaining it for us, Captain Burney is very kind, and we return many thanks to him. But Martaban is far from the Country of Siam, exposed, and not connected with the Siamese territories, to protect and keep Martaban would be very difficult, and the inhabitants of Martaban would not be pleased, because the Siamese would be fighting with the Burmese.

If the English desire to continue the war with Ava, the Siamese will assist them and then we shall wish to obtain Martaban as a Depot for our Armies, and for their Stores and Provisions.

Now the English are not to fight with the Burmese, but they are respectively to live in peace and friendship. Do not take any more trouble about Martaban. With respect to what is said about the boundaries of the Country of Mergui Tavoy and Tenasserim no boundaries could ever be established between the Siamese and Burmese. But the English

desire to have these fixed. Let them enquire from the old inhabitants residing on the frontiers of Mergui Tavoy and Tenasserim, what they know respecting the contiguous territories, and let what they point out be the boundaries between the English and Siamese Possessions.

But these Countries of Mergui, Tavoy and Tenasserim, have now become the possessions of the English, with whom the Siamese are on terms of intimate friendship and let men who desire to come and trade between us with safety, be furnished with Passes for the information of each. The Siamese have no business to infringe on the frontiers of the English. And let the Siamese Officers who are accustomed to go and seize men be strictly prohibited against entering any part of the English Possessions. Do not let any of the English ever be troubled on the score of seizing men, or of boundaries.

This letter, containing the orders of His Majesty, the Ministers have directed Pya Phi-phut Kosa to write on Thursday the third day of the third Month in the Year Fowl.

Translated by means of a version
in the Malayan language.

Signed) H. BURNEY—Captain
Envoy to the
Court of Siam.

Seal of
Pya Phi-phut
Kosa.

Straits Settlements, Vol. 109, pp. 667-722.

FORT CORNWALLIS. The 23: March 1826.

READ the following letter from the Envoy at Siam to the Honorable the Governor, with Copies of several Appendixes to his Proceedings at the Court.

ENVOY at the COURT of SIAM.

—

Bangkok, 15 February 1826.

To

THE HONORABLE

R. FULLERTON Esquire

Governor &ca., &ca., &ca.

ENVOY at the Court of Siam 15 February 1826.

Honble. Sir,

By the Grab Brig Hamoody I had the honor to forward to you a Journal of my proceedings at this Capital down to the 22: December and I now beg to submit to you a continuation of my Journal, from that to the present date.

The annexed Papers A. B. C. D. forming Nos. 11. 19, 20 and 21, of the Appendix to my Journal will, I hope, enable you to take an immediate view of the progress of my negotiations:—and I trust the Brig Guardian will return to me in two Months with your orders and further instructions, as well as with the supply of provisions for which I have addressed the Secretary to Government.

I have &ca.

Signed) H. BURNEY—Captain

Envoy to the Court of Siam.

APPENDIX to Captain Burney's Journal of his MISSION to SIAM.

A.

No. 21.

REPORT of the progress of Captain Burney's Negotiations with the Court of Siam.

Bangkok, 15th February 1826

1. It is extremely difficult to persuade such a capricious and mistrustful Court as that of Siam to disclose its views and feelings, and it is scarcely possible for a British Negotiator to form any rational conjecture respecting motives and grounds of action, which are not founded on the same modes of reasoning as would govern the Conduct of a European Court.

2. The Paper marked No. 11 in the appendix to my Journal contains such suggestions respecting Siamese negotiations, as occurred to me the moment I received intelligence of an approaching peace with Ava. Since writing these suggestions which were forwarded to the British Commissioners in Ava on the 2nd February, I find that some intelligence received at Bangkok of Martaban having been destroyed by fire and much depopulated has produced a change in the sentiments of Siamese Ministers. That place is now thought "far from Siam", and I have been given to understand that the Court would prefer possession of Tavoy. I have declined however to understand the expression used by the King of Siam, that "Martaban is far from Siam", in any other light than as a general refusal of any territorial cessions in his favor and I have signified my intention of making a report to this effect to the British Government.

3. There is no question that Siam never intended to co-operate with us against Ava, and that the Pegu Chief Maha Ayothia, was intrusted to deceive us into a contrary belief by his communications with the

British General and Officers at Martaban. The moment the Court of Siam found the War concluded, as well as its hopes of deceiving us into giving it certain advantages at an end, a resolution was formed to try and secure something from the Burmese, and it is believed, an order has been given for the Siamese Troops to seize the opportunity offered by the removal of our forces, to enter some Burmese territory, lay it waste, and bring away the whole of its inhabitants. The intelligence that our Treaty with Ava contained a clause to prevent the Burmese from molesting the the Siamese, may produce a change in this resolution of the Court. * But the Siamese Ministers believe that when it is known that Martaban and other Pegu towns are to be restored to the Burmese, many of the inhabitants of such towns will retire into the Siamese dominions, and this Court will probably not omit to adopt measures for affording to those inhabitants every opportunity and inducement to emigrate before the Burmese authority is re-established.

* See the Ministers reply to Captain Burneys Letter of the 9 February No. 20. From a perusal of which my superiors may judge of the feelings of the Siamese Court and people towards the Burmese and of the temper with which they regard the Clause in our Treaty with Ava admitting them to the benefits of the peace.

4. It is generally believed at Bangkok that the British Government has resolved upon taking possession of the Kingdom of Kedah, and this belief, and an impression that the present Mission has been deputed to force a Consul or Resident upon the Siamese, joined to the intelligence sent up from Tringano in October last, of an expedition against Siam preparing at Singapore and various other tales, have greatly excited the fears and suspicions of the Court. Its preparations to meet a hostile attack on the part of the British Government continue, notwithstanding all the assurances of the present Mission. As yet the Rajah of Ligore himself, who arrived at Bangkok on the 3rd February, is suspected by some of the Ministers to be unduly biassed to support the views of the British Government.

The reply is not clear on one point but I am assured that the King of Siam has countermanded the order directing the Siamese Officers to kidnap Burmese. If this be true some immediate advantage will be gained in as much as time will be given to the Supreme Government to fix the line of our future political relations with both Siam and Ava.

5. The Clause in our Treaty with Ava has offered me excellent grounds to remove the fears and

suspicions of the Court, which were however upon the first accounts of the peace still further aggravated by a consideration of the deceitful promises it had made of co-operation in the War. * I have endeavoured also to make the Siamese Ministers consider the Clause in our Treaty by which the benefits of peace with Ava are secured in favor of Siam, as unequivocal a proof of the friendly disposition of the British Government, as the cession of a portion of its conquests could be.

* The Court of Siam really fears the Burmese power although it is extremely anxious to conceal its fears from us.

6. Most of the Ministers desire to receive some territory from us, but they are very unwilling to avow such desire, from a suspicion that the cession would be made by us, coupled with some difficult conditions. Some of the Ministers, referring to the treacherous conduct in past years of Burmese and Siamese Governors of Tavoy and Mergui, argue that the formation of establishments in that quarter will lead to the repetition of such acts of treachery. The English, as well as the Burmese, they state, will have an opportunity of bribing or intriguing with the Siamese Governors for a ready admission from thence into the Siamese dominions.

7. It has been well explained to the Siamese Ministers, that they must resign all idea of obtaining possession of the Provinces of Tavoy and Mergui for the settlement and Civil Government of which arrangements are making under the direction of the Honorable the Governor of Prince of Wales Island. The annexed sketch of the Routes between Tavoy, Martaban and Bangkok, will give some idea of the frontiers [of] our conquests and the Siamese dominions. The Court of Siam is informed that Tavoy is inhabited principally by Peguers. The Commissioner at Tavoy can declare whether this information be correct; but I beg to point out, that the intercourse between the Siamese Capital and Tavoy is much more easy and capable of advantageous com-

mercial results than that with Mergui. By embarking on the Menam-Nai, the passage between Tavoy and Bangkok may certainly be reduced to 8 or 9 days which is very nearly the time formerly reported to Mr. Crawfurd. Tavoy abounds in Tin and other productions and the country on its frontiers is rich in sapan and *Teak* wood while that on the frontiers of Mergui and Tenasserim is stated to be poor, barren and thinly inhabited.

8. The Memorial No. 19 that I submitted to the Siamese Ministers on the 13: February contains the the whole of the objects which the British Government appears to me to require from Siam, and upon condition of her granting all of which I conceive any cession of territory or other advantage ought to be ceded on our part. This Memorial, with its explanatory notes, will also shew the system by which the Commerce of British subjects is now regulated at Bangkok and the points in which that system has any chance of being ameliorated by Negotiation.

9. No Commercial Treaty with Siam could prove so advantageous to British Commerce and shipping as a settlement at Tavoy, whence we could ensure at all times a large share in the Commerce of Siam, without being dependent on the caprice of a suspicious and jealous Court. The Portuguese Consul at Bangkok once gave great offence to the King, by appealing to the Prah Klang's engagements with the Governor of Goa for immunity from some demand that was made against a Portuguese Trader. He was told that he ought to have appealed to the benevolence of the King, and not to any written engagement.

10. The establishment of a British Resident at any Burmese Port, which we may cede to Siam, might prove perhaps, a useful stipulation, as such an Officer in that quarter could ascertain a (? and) report to

Government whatever was passing in the Siamese territories, without being liable to insult or indignity. But I am decidedly of opinion, that no British Consul, Resident or factory could be placed at the Capital of Siam, without the risk of bringing on a war between the two nations in the course of six months. An impression that the present mission was deputed for this object has done great mischief and I am the more encouraged to declare so forcibly the impolicy of such an object, from seeing that Mr. Crawfurd's sentiments with respect to it coincide with mine (see paras. 108 and 112 of the Report of his Mission).

11. Strong and decisive language only could prevail on this Court to release the Mergui inhabitants, whom the Pya of Chimpohun brought away. Nothing could be more disgracefully cruel than the conduct of the Siamese towards these Captives. 547 Men Women and Children have been sent back from Bangkok under charge of one of my Interpreters and an order from the Court has been dispatched to the Governor of Chimpohun directing the release of the Captives remaining in that quarter.

12. When the Ministers of Siam are convinced of the futility of their expectations that our Conquests on the Coast of Tenasserim will be ceded to Siam, I think I shall succeed in prevailing upon them to adopt some measures for the Settlement of boundaries and other points embracing an improvement of Trade and intercourse between those Conquests and the Siamese dominions, On pointing out the absurdity of the answer (namely, that we might enquire from the old inhabitants of Tavoy and Mergui and fix our boundaries according to their statements) which the King of Siam returned to a proposition that I had submitted for the above purpose I was requested to wait a little and not communicate this answer to my Government.

13. The Mission Vessel, the Brig Guardian has been ordered to Singapore and Prince of Wales Island, for the purpose as well of enabling Government to communicate to me any instructions with reference to the close of the Burmese War as of procuring a further supply of provisions for the use of the Escort and Followers attached to the Mission.

Signed) H. BURNEY Captain
Envoy to the Court of Siam.

Since writing the above I have been privately assured by the Rajah of Ligor, that the Siamese Ministers are disposed to accede to all the propositions contained in my Memorial No. 19 excepting that requiring the restoration of the King of Kedah to which they are decidedly opposed, because the offered annual payment of 4,000 Dollars is too insignificant, when compared with the revenue which His Highness now realizes from Kedah and nearly the whole of which is sent up to Bangkok. The interests of the Rajah of Ligor are, of course, too much connected wit Kedah for me to place implicit faith in what I hear from him on this subject. But my Memorial it will be seen, does not propose to Siam a clear equivalent for all that the British Government requires from her; and it will rest with my Superiors to determine, whether I shall sacrifice the claims of Kedah, and accept whatever the Siamese Ministers are now described to be willing to grant, or offer to them any other advantage besides an augmentation of the proposed sum of 4000 Dollars, to induce them to concede that point also. I have taken care to avoid holding out any distinct pledge to the Siamese of protection against Ava from the British Government; and I have conceived it my duty to try and secure as much as possible from Siam for the smallest return on our part.

Signed) H. BURNEY Captain
Envoy to the Court of Siam.

B. No. 11.

SUGGESTIONS respecting Siamese Negotiations submitted to the British Commissioners in Ava.

1. The British Government requires Siam to relinquish all claims of supremacy over the Malayan Peninsular States, and to grant a more free and unrestricted trade with her Kingdom. The expediency of obtaining the former object has been fully shewn by the Honorable the Governor of Prince of Wales Island, and the very valuable and extensive commercial resources of Siam Mr. Crawfurd has truly exhibited.

2. Siam desires the possession of the Burmese Provinces of Martaban and Tavoy, and to put the most charitable construction upon her not fulfilling her reiterated promises of co-operation in the present war, it may be said that she was extremely doubtful of the issue of the contest, and that she wished to preserve a neutrality, but was afraid to disclose her wishes. She had besides, received so many tales from Malays, and probably Burmese Emissaries of the intention of the British Government to attack her, that all the exertions of the present Mission have scarcely succeeded in removing the mischievous effects of such impressions.

3. There is a mountainous waste of several days journey on either side of the frontiers between the Siamese dominions and the provinces of Tavoy and Martaban and the existence of this waste has ever proved the strongest defence of Siam against Ava, whose population is far superior to that of Siam in every Military quality and whose Armies, if they had not been obliged to carry their own provisions over this tract, would have crossed it much oftner than they have done.

4. It may be considered good policy to keep up the tract of desolation between the Siamese and any possessions that the British Government may retain on the Coast of Tenasserim, as the intervention of a mountainous waste may reduce the chances of dispute and collision.

5. In any plan for ceding a portion of our conquests to Siam two points would require to be considered First, that she could retain the territory against even the present reduced power of Ava; and Secondly, that the inhabitants would readily receive their new masters or at least, not experience an undue measure of oppression.

6. The Provinces of Tavoy, Mergui and Tenasserim are inhabited by a race of Burmese, which, judging from the conduct of the Siamese towards the prisoners whom they brought from those provinces during the present War would be certain of being made slaves, and of being treated with the utmost inhumanity, if transferred to Siam.

7. A large portion of the population of Siam consists of Pegues and of the descendants of Pegu Emigrants, and Martaban, which once belonged to Siam, appears capable of being made a post of considerable strength, while it is inhabited chiefly by Peguers, who have been in extensive communication with their brethren in Siam during the whole of the present war.

8. One objection against ceding Martaban to Siam is, that by bringing the Siamese closer to the Burmese we may sow the seeds of more dispute between them. But it may be hoped that British posts at Tavoy and Mergui would enable us to keep the peace between these nations. The Burmese in the struggle with the English must have made a great advance in Military tactics, and in proportion as the terms of the proposed treaty between us press upon

them in the North and West, they will try to move towards the South and East. Although the Court of Siam is too arrogant to admit it, yet there may be strong grounds for believing that unless the Siamese are pledged [to] the support of the British Government, put in possession of some advantageous post on the frontiers of Ava the Burmese will have greater inclination and ability than ever, to find their way to Bangkok from Martaban, which is the place where they formerly collected their forces preparatory to attacking Siam.

9. Next to Martaban perhaps the province of Ye, would be the most eligible cession to make to Siam. That province also is said to be chiefly inhabited by Peguers, and it might be further strengthened by the addition of some portions of the provinces of Tenasserim and Tavoy, first providing for the removal into the British possessions of the Burmese inhabitants of such territory.

10. The Court of Siam however appears to put the chief value upon Martaban, and the offer of that province would give the British Government the best, perhaps the only chance of obtaining from Siam the whole of the objects it desires. If that province has already been restored to the Burmese, it might perhaps be recovered by us in exchange for some other territory that Ava has ceded to us.

11. Siam entertains at present the greatest apprehensions of the power of the British Government and the greatest doubts respecting its future views. Her mistrust has been so far aggravated, that unless some earnest of our friendly disposition be unequivocally offered to her no concessions will be made in favor of British Trade and shipping, not will perhaps even my provisional Treaty with the Rajah of Ligor concerning the Kingdoms of Kedah

and Perak be ratified. The Siamese have no idea of a "free and unrestricted trade," and to secure such a benefit our negotiator must persuade the Ministers to enter with him into the minutest details, and to arrange and establish fixed and well defined rules and rates of duties, customs and shipping charges. The Ministers are so immediately interested in the present system of conducting foreign trade, that any argument as to a more free trade proving a mutual benefit to both nations will be of no avail. Nothing but a great present advantage will induce them to adopt more liberal principles.

Signed) H. BURNEY Captain
Envoy to the Court of Siam.

Bangkok
31 January 1826

A True Copy
Signed) H. BURNEY.

APPENDIX to Captain Burney's Journal of his Mission to Siam.

C. No. 19.

Bangkok, 13 February 1826.

Memorial submitted to the Ministers of the Court of Siam by Captain H. Burney Envoy from the Right Honorable the Governor General of British India.

The war with Ava being concluded the time is now past for Siam to gain any advantage by co-operating with the English. But there remains one plan, by persuing which the dominions and reputation of the King of Siam may become much greater, and Captain Burney having been deputed to Bangkok by the Right Honble. the Governor General of British India, in order to improve and cement friendship between the English and Siamese nations, is induced to point out this plan for the consideration of the Ministers of Siam.

The English do not ask Siam for any territory, factory, or for the establishment of a Consul at Bangkok. Captain Burney is well satisfied that no English Factory or Consul could be placed at Bangkok, without the chance of producing a war between the two Nations before the expiration of Six months and he begs only, that English Merchants may be allowed to remain here to sell their Merchandize, and that the Siamese may rent houses for their accommodation in the same manner as is now done.

The English require Siam to refrain from molesting the Malayan States, and to grant a more liberal and secure trade to English Merchants. This is all which the English desire and for which they are willing to make an equitable return to the Siamese.

The English do not intend to take possession of the Malayan States, and will engage themselves to this effect, if the Siamese will engage, on their

part, not to molest those States. If the Siamese refuse to do this, and if their Armies persist in over running the Malayan Countries, driving their inhabitants into the English Settlements of Penang, Malacca and Singapore, in the greatest state of distress, and interrupting the peace and Commerce of those Settlements, Captain Burney is confident that the friendship between the English and Siamese nations will be disturbed very soon. This point may however be easily settled, without impairing the dignity or resources of the King of Siam; and the English will take care that the inhabitants of the Malayan States do not disturb the peace of Siam.

On this subject Captain Burney submits three propositions for the consideration of the Siamese Ministers.

1st. The States of Perak and Salangore have for the last 50 years been connected by Treaty with the settlement of Malacca and the Dutch having resigned that Settlement, and all rights and claims connected with it, to the English, the British Government cannot allow the Siamese to interfere with those States in any manner.

2d. If the King of Siam will restore the Rajah of Kedah to his throne, release his family and subjects, and engage that the Siamese troops shall evacuate the territories of Kedah and not return to molest them, the British Government will not take possession of Kedah, and will engage to make His Highness of Kedah send the Boonga Mas and Perak triennially, and a sum of 4000 Spanish Dollars annually to the King of Siam through the Rajah of Ligor. Captain Burney repeats the English will engage not to take possession of the Kingdom of Kedah.

3. If the King of Siam engage that his troops and subjects shall not molest the Kingdoms of Calantan

and Tringano, the British Government will engage not to occupy these States or to prevent the Rajahs of Tringano and Calantan, from sending the Boonga Mas and Perak triennially according to the custom.

With respect to trade Captain Burney confiding in the liberal and enlightened character of the present Monarch of Siam, rests assured that the impediments and delays, which now embarrass commerce at Bangkok, require only to be pointed out to His Majesty to be immediately removed and corrected. In the English ports of Singapore Malacca and Penang the Vessels and Merchandize of Siam pay no duties whatever, and her traders are allowed to sell and buy to and from whomsoever they please, without the smallest obstruction. The Chinese Junks that visit Siam pay only one measurement duty, while the Portuguese who possess so little trade and none of whose Vessels have come to Bangkok during the last seven years, pay an Import duty of only 6 Per Cent. The English do not ask to be exempted from the payment of duties, but to have the duties regularly fixed, and to be allowed the privilege of buying and selling, wherever they please at Bangkok.

At present no inhabitant of Bangkok dares buy from an English Merchant, or sell to him any thing without the previous permission of the Prah Klang, and that permission, it is well known, is never given whenever he, his petty Officers or the King's Merchants have any thing to buy or sell. Sugar may be bought by any one but a European Merchant in the Market from 8 to 9 Ticals Per Pecul, including the duty of 1½ Tical, but the Prah Klang's charge for that article is always from 10 to 11 Ticals Per Pecul. Pepper may be bought in the Market from 14 Ticals Per Pecul, including the duty of 3 Ticals, but the Prah Klang's charge is 18 Ticals. Sapanwood may be bought in the same manner for 2 Ticals Per

Pecul, including the duty of 1 Tical, but the Prah Klang and his Officers insist upon the English Merchant paying them for the same description of Article 4 Ticals Per Pecul. An English or Surat Merchant can sell no part of his Cargo before the Prah Klang, his petty Officers or the King's Merchants have selected whatever they please and for which they will not settle a fair price, keeping the Merchant waiting day after day for a month or six weeks, until they either force him to submit to their terms or lose the chance of selling his Cargo to any advantage. While the Prah Klang and his petty Officers are settling a price in this extraordinary manner, the English or Surat Merchant cannot transact business with any one else, and if he refuse to accept their offer, it is well known and cannot be denied, that no inhabitant of Bangkok dare make any other offer, for what these Officers desire to possess. Yet Captain Burney knows that upon the accession of the present King of Siam, His Majesty was pleased to declare that the trade of his Kindgom should be henceforth made free to all persons.

Again, the manner in which the port and Anchorage duties or Vessels are charged, is regulated by no fixed rule. The charges are made in fact by guess, and a total is given to the English Merchants, without any statement of particulars. Besides a general Import duty 8 per Cent and heavy Export duties, varying from 20 to 50 Per Cent, on their Cargoes, an English Vessel of 3 Masts pays 2357 Ticals, and a Brig, although less than one half of the size of the other, pays 1726 Ticals and 1 sling, for port and anchorage duties. The Pya of Paknam lately increased his fee from 80 to 124 Ticals, without declaring to the English Merchant by whose authority or for what reason such increase was made,—and a Vessel has to pay the same heavy rate of duties every time she visits Bangkok, which is contrary to the

practice of ports in most parts of the world, where such charges on the same Vessel are levied only once in six or twelve months.

In addition to all these duties and charges, an English Merchant is required to pay 28½ Ticals, and sometimes 32½ Ticals for a Pass for every Junk belonging to Siam, that he may hire to send down to the bar only, with such portion of Cargo as his ship, in consequence of the shallowness of the water on the bar, cannot venture to receive at Bangkok. And if he purchases Rice, Paddy or Salt, he is obliged to pay 2 Slings or half a Tical, a day to 40 Clerks to come and see the Article measured, although only one of them attends, and his attendance is limited to 2 hours a day, in order that the whole 40 may be continued in pay of the English Merchant as long as possible.

Captain Burney entreats His Majesty the King of Siam will appoint proper Officers to investigate into the truth and accuracy of all that Captain Burney has here stated, and to ascertain how much the trade and revenues of Siam have been reduced and abused by such a system of conducting foreign commerce. English and Surat ships are always detained at Bangkok for at least 4 or 5 months at a very heavy loss before they can sell their Cargo and procure another, and many English and American Traders, in consequence of such obstructions and vexatious delays, have left Bangkok with a determination of never revisiting it. Let the Ministers ask the Commander of the American Vessels now at Bangkok, what delays and difficulties and losses he is experiencing. The Siamese and Chinese are fair Merchants, but it is the Chulia Officers of Government that are the cause of all the mischief and of so great a number of ships not returning to Bangkok.

In lieu of the present system Captain Burney begs to submit to the consideration of the Siamese Ministers, in the following eight propositions, a more advantageous and liberal mode of treating English Trade and shipping.

1. On the arrival of every English or Surat Vessel, let the Commander lay before the Prah Klang a manifest of the whole of her Cargo, and a list of her Crew, Passengers and Warlike Stores. If the Manifest prove incorrect, the Officers of the Prah Klang may of course seize all Merchandize not included in the manifest.

2 Let the Vessel be then measured in Breadth according to the existing Siamese Regulations, and a charge made of a certain number of Ticals Per fathom and let this charge be so rated that it shall include at once all Anchorage and Port duties, Presents, and Import and Export duties of every description. This is the manner in which the Chinese levy their duties upon English trade and shipping and Captain Burney thinks, that if, a sum of 1,500 Ticals were levied at once upon every fathom of breadth in an English Vessel, in lieu of every other charge for Anchorage, Import and Export duties, Presents &ca., such a sum would be readily paid, and the resort of English Vessels to Siam, would be greatly increased.

3d. Let this charge be reduced in certain proportions to every Vessel returning to Siam a second, third or fourth time within 12 months and let no charge be levied upon Junks that may be hired to carry to a vessel outside of the bar a residue of her Cargo.

4. Upon payment of the charge described in the second proposition, let the English or Surat Merchant have full liberty to sell his Cargo and buy a return wherever he pleases. If the King requires to purchase

or sell any goods let His Majesty's Merchant go to the Market in the same manner as every other trader. As the King has the most and the best goods, and has the earliest information and the greatest command of money, his Majestys Merchant, if he exerts himself, ought to be able to buy and sell for His Majesty to greater advantage than what any private Merchant can do. The present system of forcing the English Merchant to accept the terms of the King's Merchant, or not to sell his goods at all or buy a return Cargo, is manifestly unjust, and the greatest grievance experienced at Bangkok by the English and Surat Merchant.

5. Let a particular Officer be appointed to see Rice Paddy and Salt measured and let him be paid for his trouble at a fixed rate per Coyan.

6. Let the Gun powder and shot only be removed from all English Vessels arriving at Paknam, but let the Guns remain on board. The removal of the Guns puts the English merchant to trouble and Expense, and it is a custom considered in some measure dishonorable by the English. Without the powder the Guns can be productive of no harm, and if a quantity of powder is found in an English Vessel at Bangkok, the Commander may of course be fined.

7. When any British subject has any suit for debt or other matter against any subject of the King of Siam, let the British subject lay his complaint before the Prah Klang or other Officer appointed by the King, and let the Prah Klang or such Officer, after investigating such complaint and finding it just and well founded, have the Siamese subject seized, and procure from him a full satisfaction for the British subject.

8. Let all Vessels, small Boats &ca. under English Colours, and all English Merchants have liberty to trade with every part of the Siamese dominions on the same terms as are detailed in these propositions and British subjects while residing in the Siamese dominions may be considered amenable to the established laws of Siam for any transgressions against them.

The above eight propositions contain the principal points which the British Government is interested in securing from Siam, in favor of British trade and shipping, and whenever the Ministers desire it Captain Burney will be ready to afford them any explanations, as well as to receive their observations upon what he has here represented.

The world is grown older and wiser and the trade of the Siamese, as well as of the English, is infinitely greater than what it was, when the rules now in force at Bangkok were established. No nation can supply the Siamese with many articles required by them, so well or so cheaply as the English and the present enlightened Monarch need not be told, that the prosperity and happiness of his subjects will increase in proportion as the resort of trade and shipping to Siam increases. If the propositions which Captain Burney has here submitted, by order of the Right Honble. the Governor General with respect to the Malayan States and British Trade are acceded to, the English and Siamese will continue for hundreds of years on terms of the most intimate friendship; and Captain Burney begs the Ministers of Siam will observe, that the English have now placed themselves in a situation, from which they can most easily prevent the Burmese from ever attempting to molest the peace and tranquillity of any part of the Siamese dominions. What greater or more convincing proof can the Siamese Ministers require of the friendly

disposition of the British Government, than the Clause which has been inserted in its Treaty with Ava and by which the benefits of peace are secured in favor of Siam also?

But while the English are affording this and a hundred other proofs of their good will and friendly feelings, the Siamese, Captain Burney observes, are building and repairing forts, mounting Guns, fitting chains of defence across the Menam and making every other preparation for war.

The great King of Siam has now no enemy nor does he now require any additional territory on the side of Ava. If his Majesty will only trust in the declarations of Captain Burney, the English and Siamese will henceforth live on terms of the most intimate friendship on terms of brotherly affection.

Signed) H. BURNEY—Captain
Envoy to the Court of Siam.

(A True Copy)

Signed) H. BURNEY.

NOTES.

The Court of Siam seems to have taken a far greater interest than is generally believed in the execution of the Rajah of Ligores schemes of conquests. I find most of the principal persons at Bangkok shared in the plunder of Kedah. Besides Guns and other Articles about 1,000 of the inhabitants were sent up here, and these Malays are now employed as slaves with the King, Wang-na and almost every Siamese Minister. But there is no question, that these conquests would never have been authorized, if the Court of Siam had been certain that the British Government would have interfered. In 1821 and again very recently the present King repeatedly consulted the Portuguese Consul, as to the probability of the Government at Prince of Wales Island interfering to prevent the subjugation of Kedah, Perak and Salangore, and when it was known that the Rajah of Ligor had come into collision with the Penang Government, Muskets and Stores were promptly sent down to him. All European travellers of the 17th Century describe Kedah as tributary to Siam, but in the beginning of the 18: Century Captain Hamilton found it independent "having" as he observes "thrown off the Siamese Yoke in the long Pegu War." I have lately learned that Pya Tac commonly called the Chinese King of Siam, replaced the Yoke about the year 1771 (see also pages 489 and 523 Vol: 5 of Nouvelles Lettres Edifiantes") Kedah appears therefore to have but recently felt the power of Siam at the same time she began her connection with the British Government and this fact confirms the opinions of the present Honble. Governor of Prince of Wales Island that Kedah sought the connection and ceded the Island under a belief that she should be protected against Siam. Many persons have assured me, that Kedah now yields to the Rajah of Ligor a revenue of 30,000 Dollars per annum. If the exertions of the

British Government restore the King of Kedah the the annual stipend of 10,000 Dollars could therefore, and ought in justice to be discontinued.

The Provisional Treaty with the Rajah of Ligor yielded in some measure to the Siamese demand of the Boonga Mas from Perak, but the information I have gathered here, has induced me to assume a higher tone, and to claim at once for the British Government a right of protecting Perak and Salangore founded on the ancient connection subsisting between these States and the Settlement of Malacca. Tringano and Calantan have already submitted so much to Siamese pretensions that I conceived it prudent to yield the point of the Boonga Mas with respect to them, and particularly as I feared if I did not do so, the intention, which the Court has had for some time past and which I hope to prevent, of sending down two Junks and a Deputation to Tringano, would be executed before the British Government could have an opportunity of interfering.

The Chinese pay a small duty * upon the Junks and an Export duty of half a Tical Per Pecul upon Sugar. The rest of their Exports and the whole of their Imports are free of duty. The British Merchant who pays an Import duty of 8 Per Cent and heavy Export duties, cannot compete with the Chinese, who have brought up British Cottons and Merchandize from Singapore and the Eastward, until the Market at Bangkok is overstocked and many articles of British Manufacture are now selling here at much lower prices than what they bring at Singapore and other parts to the Eastward.

* The Junks that trade between Canton and Siam are charged I am told 80 Ticals per fathom of breadth. But those that trade with Hainan pay only one Anchorage duty of 177 Ticals, and those with Singapore and the Malayan ports, 127 Ticals besides Presents to the King and Prah Klang.

The Queen of Portugal opened a correspondence with the King of Siam in 1786, offering to assist the latter against the Burmese, and a reply to her letter was sent, thanking her for her friendly offer, applying

for a supply of Muskets, and inviting her to establish a factory at Bangkok. No notice was taken of this reply until 1818 when Mr. Carlaes de Silveria, a native of the Brazils and formerly resident at Macao, was deputed to Siam by the Viceroy of Goa, to take advantage of the offer made by the King of Siam in 1786. A paper of propositions containing no less than 23 Articles, and drawn up by the Viceroy with all the formality, which is observed in a Treaty of Peace [between] two great European Powers, was given to Mr. Silveria, who succeeded in procuring the consent of the Court to most of the Articles, the principal of which were the establishment of a Consul and Factory at Bangkok and at other Siamese ports, if required, and reduction 6 Per Cent of the Import duty.

The Prah Klang replied *Seriatim* to the propositions of the Viceroy, suggesting certain alterations and promising, that whenever the Viceroy signified his consent to these alterations, a regular instrument should be drawn up and signed by both parties. No answer has ever been given to the Prah Klang's letter, and Mr. Silveria has been left here un-noticed and unpaid. Some years ago a very lucrative trade passed between Macao and Siam and it was principally for the improvement of this trade that Mr. Silveria was deputed here. But no Portuguese Vessel has visited this Port during the last 6 or 7 years. The trade between China and Siam is very extensive and valuable, and the King and most of his Courtiers take a share in this trade of which the profits are so great, that 100 Per Cent is generally cleared at many of the Chinese ports upon Sapan-wood Gamboge and other articles, and it is said, that even if one only out of two Junks return to Siam, the trader is certain of clearing a handsome profit upon his speculation. The Chinese form a very large portion of the inhabitants of Bangkok and their Junks are said to bring

an annual addition of 2000 Souls to the population of Siam. The Portuguese in former years performed some services for Siam. Both Mergui and Ligor were conquered with the assistance of some Portuguese who had retired to Siam when the Dutch drove them out of Ceylon. And at present, the descendants of Portuguese are serving the King of Siam in the Army and other Departments. Hence the Portuguese, as well as the Chinese are said to possess strong claims to be favored over every other foreign nation.

It was necessary to enter so largely as I have done in this Memorial, into the charges now levied at Bangkok, because the King is aware only of the small portion which is paid into his Treasury, and the rest being embezzled by the Prah Klang, and his Officers, they would deny the existence of any charge but that which is accounted for to the King.

Mr. Crawfurd was informed that the Measurement duty on a Ship is 118 Ticals Per fathom. The Siamese fathom is a few inches more than 6 English feet. The Portuguese Consul assures me, that the established charge is only 80 Ticals Per fathom and that the surplus is embezzled by the Officers of the Prah Klang.

Exclusive of Fees to the Governor of Paknam and other expences, Mr Hunter was charged for the Ship Caroline, measuring 4 fms. 1 Cubit and 1 span 2154 Ticals, and for the Brig Shannon measuring 3 fathoms 1 Cubit and 1 span 1546 Ticals and 1 Sling; while the American Brig Siren measuring 3 fathoms and 1 Cubit, is now charged 1136 Ticals. The above sums were styled "Measurement duty" and were said to include certain fees to the Master Attendant and Officers of the Prah Klang, but no statement of particulars would be given. Upon the death of the late King an increase

was made on account of the Wang-na or 2d King. who was then appointed. It is right that the public should be generally aware of the heavy rate of port duties at Bangkok, as at present Ship Owners in London are ignorantly chartering their Vessels from Siam at only £1 per Ton higher freight than that to Singapore.

The late King of Siam monopolized the exclusive sale of Stic-lac, Sapan wood, Ivory, Gamboge and Pepper. The present King upon his accession, directed the trade in these Articles to be made free, that is, as a British Merchant has found, only when His Majesty has no supply of those Articles for sale. Unfortunately the King of Siam receives a great portion of his revenue in kind. The Siamese Troops when not otherwise engaged, are employed in cutting Timber, and Sapan wood for his Majesty. The people of Lao pay their tribute in Stic-lac, Ivory, Benjamin and other Articles. The inhabitants of the Siamese portion of Cambodia send Gamboge, Pepper and Cardamoms. To get rid of this produce His Majesty is obliged to become a Merchant, and his Officers, of course try to dispose of it to foreign Merchants on the highest possible terms. The collection of the duty upon Sugar is farmed to a Chinese named Khun Putac, and no person can manufacture the article without paying to him a duty of ½ a Tical Per Picul. This duty, which in addition to the Export duty, is paid, as well as many others in Sugar. Khun Putac is a poor Chinese, the tool of Prince Krom Meun Surin, the Phra Klang and his brother Pya Si Phi Phut; who are the real farmers of the duty. The farm is rented for 380 Catties of Silver, or 30,400 Ticals Per Annum. This would show an annual produce of 10,800 Peculs or 3,800 Tons of Sugar, but allowing for the profits and embezzlements of the farmers, the produce, I am assured, must be at least double that amount.

The Siamese have no respect for national colours which they believe may be falsely used. Two Surat Vessels, that annually visit Bangkok under English Colours, are not considered as the property of British subjects.

Mr. Crawfurd proposes in his "Notes towards a Treaty," a Tonnage duty of 40 or 50 Ticals to be substituted for the present charges. The Siamese would not credit any Registers or Papers of a Ship and I conceived it prudent not to propose too great innovations at once, but to let them continue the present system of measuring the breadth of a Vessel inside at the broadest part of the hold 40 or 50 Ticals Per Ton also appeared to me too high a charge to be first proposed by me. It appeared the *Maximum* and I assumed 1500 Ticals Per fathom of breadth as the *minimum*, upon the following *data*

The Ship Caroline paid

For Measurement duty	Ticals	2,151.
Fees to Governor of Paknam and other petty Charges	„	203.
She could carry an Export of 8000 Peculs of Sugar, upon which she would be charged at the rate of 1½ Tical Per Picul, Export duty ...		12,000.
Total ...		14,357.

Her burthen is 450 Tons and by Mr. Crawfurds plan she would have been charged from 18,000 to 22,500 Ticals. By my plan, as she measured 4 fathoms, 1 Cubit and 1 span she would have been charged about 6,750 Ticals.

The Brig Shannon paid

	Ticals	Sling
For measurement duty	1546.	1
Fees to the Governor of Paknam and other petty charges ...	175.	—
She could carry an Export Cargo of 3000 Piculs of Sugar upon which she would be charged ...	4,500.	—
Total ...	6,221.	1

Her burthen is 200 Tons and by Mr. Crawfurd's plan she would have been charged for 8 to 10,000 Ticals. By my plan, as she measured 3 fathoms, 1 Cubit and 1 span, she would have been charged 5000 Ticals.

The American Brig Siren now at Bangkok is to be charged

	Ticals.	
For measurement duty	1,136.	—
Fees to Governor of Paknam and other Petty charges	162.	—
Duty on her return Cargo of 2136 Peculs of Sugar ...	3,204.	—
Total ...	4,502.	

Her burthen is 175 Tons, and by Mr. Crawfurd's plan she would have been charged from 7000 to 8,750 Ticals. By my plan, as she measured 3 fathoms and 1 Cubit, she would have been charged about 4,875 Ticals. The above statements do not include any charge for Import Cargo but the American Brig brought bullion only, and the Caroline and Shannon were sent from Singapore principally to take away the returns of a former Import Cargo. An English Vessel imports a Cargo of such value, as to require more than herself to carry away

her returns in Siamese produce. The measurement charge on the American Vessel was so low, in consequence, it is believed of the Officers of Government being aware of a discussion with the Court pending respecting these charges.* A fraud was committed upon an American Vessel some years ago by some of the Chinese officers of Government mixing sand with the Sugar she received and before the Siren no American Vessel has been here for the last 4 years. In this very season some years ago three American Vessels received full Cargoes of Sugar in 20 days, but the Siren has been detained two months by the delays and attempts to impose on the part of the Prah Klang's Officers. The present King of Siam when Prince Krom Cheat, expressed his approbation of this mode of making one charge for the Vessel and her Cargo as practiced in China. The tax is however obviously unequal as a Vessel's capacity to carry Cargo does not depend entirely upon her length or breadth.

* NOTE. Since transmitting my Memorial the Officers of the Prah Klang have made a further reduction in the Port Charges of the Siren. Upon the Commander taking the Money to the Prah Klangs house to pay the 1136 Ticals which he had been told was the charge, he was informed that the sum was only 925 Ticals, and that he had not anything to pay to the Governor of Paknam. The Court Interpreters declare, that the reduction has been made in consequence of the statements contained in my Memorial.

I have included in the proposed charge of 1,500 Ticals Per fathom all presents now made to the Siamese Officers. If the presents now made by an English Trader consist of Muskets, Cloths and Articles the market prices of which are well known, he has a chance of receiving from the King and Prah Klang a fair return for them. But if they consist of Watches, Clocks and expensive toys, he need not expect a return of one quarter of their Cost. Some of the Siamese Officers however make no return and it will scarcely be believed that the firm of Messrs. Morgan's, Hunter & Co. of Singapore, have made presents to the King and other Officers at Bangkok to the amount of 28,000 or 30,000 Ticals for which they have received a return of only about one half of the value.

The law of Debtor and Creditor at Bangkok gives the latter a right to go himself and seize the former and imprison him or any of his family until the

debt be discharged. If however the Creditor, when employed in apprehending the Debtor, strike him or any of his family, the debt is immediately cancelled. Whenever an English Trader now complains to the Prah-Klang against any person who may be in his debt he is asked why did he trust the party, and told to go himself and imprison him. I have not made any proposition respecting the mutual restitution of Criminals, because the Siamese cannot draw any distinction between civil offenders and Criminals, and because the British Court of Judicature at Prince of Wales Island would interfere with the proper execution of any plan for this object. It would never, I conceive, recognize Mr. Crawfurds plan (see his notes towards a Treaty) proposing that the Offender should be amenable to the laws and jurisdiction of the power in whose territory he may be apprehended.

Signed) H. BURNEY Captain
Envoy to the Court of Siam.

D. No. 20.

REPLY to Captain Burney's Memorial No. 17 of the 9th February 1826.

Captain Burneys letter having been communicated to the Ministers, declaring that the British General at Pettanago has written to Captain Burney, stating that the English have made a Treaty of Peace with the Burmese, and that the English have forbidden the Burmese to attack or molest the Siamese in future, because the English are the friends of the Siamese—and further, that the English desire that the Siamese may not go and attack or molest the Burmese in future. The Chow Pya Prah Klang was requested to lay the same before his Majesty, who having understood its contents was pleased to observe:—What the English desire that the Siamese and Burmese may not molest each other, they desire because they entertain the most sincere friendly feelings towards the Siamese—and because they do not wish the Siamese to fight with the Burmese so that each nation may live in peace in its own territory. This is extremely good, but the Burmese are deceitful, their word is not to be trusted. What they have done, they have done through fear of the English, and because they found it necessary to make a Treaty and to promise to live well with the Siamese. If hereafter they see the Siamese careless, they will come and attack some Siamese Country. They will do so without recollection [of] their engagement. But we must see and hear more. We cannot direct the Siamese to confide in the Burmese, and become negligent. If Captain Burney desire to learn the treacherous and perfidious character of the Burmese, let the Ministers communicate to him a copy of the account contained in the annals of the Kingdom of the Wars between the Siamese and Burmese, and the declarations of the Burmese in former years so that Captain Burney may know and well reflect upon this matter. Such

were his Majestys orders. The Ministers desire Pya Phi-phut Kosa to make the following copy from the annals of the Country for the information of Captain Burney. In the year 1170 about 18 years ago, the Burmese deputed, via Martaban, Pya Intachak, Akabangi, Pya Chak and Surachakio, as Envoys to express their sincere desire that peace and friendship might be established with the Siamese. At that time the King of Siam then reigning, was old and sick, and all the Ministers and people of Siam were full of sorrow. The Ministers desired that the Guards might be withdrawn, and that no men should go and catch Burmese and they wished to see once more what the Burmese would do in their deceit. In that same year the Burmese raised an army and built war boats at Tavoy. The Siamese did not go and seize men, and for this reason they did not know what the Burmese were about. The next year 1171, the Burmese invaded Junkceylon and the Siamese were not able to send an Army for its protection, for which reason, as the place was far, the Burmese succeeded in taking possession of the Island and in carrying away the whole of its inhabitants. The Burmese proposed to do the same with some of the other Siamese countries but the Army of Siam went, and entirely defeating them, drove them back and recovered Junkceylon. Yet the inhabitants of that Island were ruined and destroyed because the declarations of the Burmese had been credited and the Siamese had not gone to catch Burmese and gather intelligence. Since that year the Siamese have never failed to watch the Burmese, and the Burmese have not been able to plunder the Siamese or infringe on their boundaries. In the year 1173 the Burmese hung up a letter at the extremity of the frontiers in which letter it was stated that the Burmese desired friendship with the Siamese and proposed to depute a man of rank to Siam to open a negotiation, requesting therefore that the Siamese

guards should be prohibited against seizing men. But the Siamese did not credit the Burmese, because their word is untrue and spoken only to deceive, and the Siamese were sent to catch men wherever opportunities offered.

One party of the Siamese, which had penetrated beyond the frontiers to the river Pran between the Countries of Ye and Tavoy, fell in with and seized some Burmese Officers of rank, who had come down from Ava in a vessel. There were two men of rank, and a native Christian who was the Commander of the Vessel. Upon their examination, it appeared that one of them, named Kunnang who was a personal servant of the King of Ava, had been sent with letters to prepare and collect the Troops belonging to the smaller provinces of Pegu and Tavoy, and that the King of Ava had ordered his Ministers to raise an Army at Martaban, in order to attack the Siamese. When this was known the Siamese sent an Army to be in waiting for the Burmese Army at the extremity of the frontiers. Chakcharwoongee was the Commander in Chief of the Burmese Army and there were a great many Officers who had brought the Army from Ava and from the other smaller Countries to Martaban. When the Burmese found that the Siamese army had come to meet them, they had not the courage to move their force into the Siamese Country, in order to fight the Siamese. The Burmese Army waited only at Martaban until the dry Season was over, and the rainy season had commenced, when it dispersed. All that is here said about the conduct of the Burmese is perfectly true. The professions of the Burmese to the Siamese have proved false many times and the Siamese cannot again be careless and confide in them.

Pya Phi-phut Kosa here inscribes the orders of the King of Siam, and agreeably to the directions of

the Ministers, copies the account of the former wars and disputes between the Siamese and Burmese, for the information of Captain Burney on Saturday the 8th day of the 3d Moon in the year Fowl.

Translated by means of a version
in the Malayan language.

Signed) H. BURNEY Captain
Envoy to the Court
of Siam.

A True Copy
Signed) H. BURNEY.

Straits Settlements, Vol. 109, pp. 723-4.

FORT CORNWALLIS The 23: March 1826.

ORDERED that Copies of the foregoing Documents be prepared and transmitted to the Secretary to the Supreme Government by the Ship Abgaris.

RESIDENT at SINGAPORE.

To,

W. S. Cracroft Esquire,
Secretary to the Government
Prince of Wales Island.

RESIDENT at SINGAPORE 13 March 1826.

Sir,

For the information of the Honorable the Governor in Council, I have the honor to state that the enclosed Packet from Captain Burney Envoy at the Court of Siam, containing an Indent on the Commissary of Supplies and general Treasury at Prince of Wales Island was received here on the 12th Instant under a flying Seal and in explanation of the remarks made by me on the same to state that with them I received a demi Official communication from Captain Burney, requesting with reference to a former letter from him to Mr. Crawfurd wherein certain supplies had been required that should the demand have been complied with notice of the same should be inscribed on the present applications.

The Treasure and articles of supplies were shipped on board the Ship Hunter Captain Johnston as long ago as the 13: January last, the ship after having twice put back from the prevalence of very strong and unfavorable winds in the China Seas did not finally get away until 17th of last month.

I have the honor to be &c. &c. &c.
Signed) S. G. BONHAM
Acting Resident.

Singapore
13th March 1826.

Strait Settlements, Vol. 109, pp. 725-6.

FORT CORNWALLIS The 23: March 1826.

ENVOY at the COURT of SIAM.

Bangkok, 15th February 1826.

To

The Secretary to Government
Prince of Wales Island.

ENVOY at the COURT of SIAM 15 February 1826.

Sir,

I beg you will submit to the Honble. the Governor in Council my request that a supply of Provisions for a further period of three months may be embarked on board the Brig Guardian for the use of the Escort and Followers attached to my Mission, and I enclose an Indent for the same on the Commissary of supplies.

I beg also to enclose a Receipt for Spanish Dollars 2,000 which I solicit Government may be pleased to advance to me to account, and to remit to me by the Guardian.

Referring to the peculiar circumstances under which the followers of the Sepoys detached with me were left at Prince of Wales Island, I have complied with Subadar Meer Soobaney's application to return there for the purpose of making arrangements for the subsistence of the Families of the Escort attached to my Mission.

I have &ca.

Signed) H. BURNEY Captain
Envoy to the Court of Siam.

ORDERED that the receipt of the above letter be acknowledged, the Resident at Singapore requested to charge the Treasure and Supplies to Bengal, and Orders issued for the Money and Provisions now required being shipped on the Guardian which Vessel may be detained a short time in hopes of a supply of Dholl and Ghee being obtained from some ship from Bengal.

Straits Settlements, Vol. 109, pp. 815-7.

FORT CORNWALLIS The 10 April 1826.

THE SECRETARY reports that the Envoy at Siam was duly advised, and that the Guardian was dispatched with the following Letter in acknowledgement of the Dispatches received from that Officer.

To the ENVOY st SIAM.

To,

CAPTAIN H. BURNEY

Envoy at Siam.

To THE ENVOY at SIAM 8 April 1826.

Sir,

I am directed by the Honorable the Governor in Council to acknowledge the receipt of your Journal of Proceedings up to the 15th February last with the Appendixes thereto and also of your letter to the address of the Honble. the Governor of the abovementioned date with its enclosures.

The Honorable the Governor in Council has no particular observations to make on the propositions to the Government of Siam contained in Appendix 19 which if attained will be most highly conducive to the Public Interests, but I am directed to remark that the opinion of this Government on the Policy of restoring the Malayan Government of Kedah and removing the Siamese therefrom remains unchanged and it is hoped that most important object of your negotiations will not fail of accomplishment.

The release of the Burmese inhabitants of Tavoy and Mergui is highly satisfactory and will it is hoped tend to impress the minds of the people of those Provinces with the greatest confidence in the British Government to which they have now been finally annexed.

Copies of your Dispatches now acknowledged were forwarded by the earliest opportunity for the information of the Right Honble. the Governor General in Council.

I have &ca.

Signed) W. S. CRACROFT

Secry. to Govt.

Fort Cornwallis

The 8 : April 1826.

Printed for private circulation.

THE

BURNEY PAPERS

II.

(May to June 1826)

Printed by order of the Committee of the Vajirañāṇa National Library.

BANGKOK

1910.

Extracts from the

Factory Records, Straits Settlements, Vol. 138,

pp. 35-157, 157-166, and 6-71 (Secret and Political Department.)

NOTE.

The second part of the Burney Papers, which is hereby issued in accordance with the promise made, reaches from May to June 1826.

The remaining parts, treating of the correspondence of Capt. Burney with Chao Phya Ligore and the orders of the Governor-General of India issued on the negotiations, have not yet reached this Library; but as the second part is complete in itself, it has been thought advisable to issue it without delay.

Factory Records, Straits Settlements, Vol. 138 pp. 35-157.

FORT CORNWALLIS The 19th June 1826.

AT A COUNCIL Present

THE HONORABLE ROBERT FULLERTON
Governor President

WILLIAM ARMSTRONG CLUBLEY Esquire

and

ROBERT IBBETSON Esquire.

READ and APPROVED the Proceedings of the 12th Instant.

THE following letter from the Envoy at Siam to the Honorable the Governor with continuation of his Journal up to the 1st May is recorded.

ENVOY AT SIAM.

Envoy at Siam 1st May 1826.

Bangkok 1st May 1826.

To

The HONORABLE R. FULLERTON Esquire
Governor &ca., &ca., &ca.

Prince of Wales Island.

Honble. Sir,

I do myself the honor to transmit to you a Copy of the continuation of the Journal of my Mission to the Court of Siam from the 15th February to this day.

I beg to solicit your particular notice to pars. 155 and 156 of my Journal and to No. 26 of the Appendix to the same.

I have &ca.

(Sd.) H. BURNEY Captain
Envoy to the Court of Siam.

Enclosure.

Continuation of Captain H. Burney's Journal of his Mission to the Court of Siam from 15th February to 1st May 1826.

119. On the 20th February Captain Sutherland and Mr. Leal returned to Bangkok, having on the day preceding taken the Brig Guardian, and the six Junks with the Burmese prisoners over the bar. As these Gentlemen reported that the most active preparations are making at Paklaat and Paknam for meeting an hostile attack I called on the Prah Klang and enquired the reason. He denied the fact, but complained against the Commander of the Guardian for not having anchored off Paknam Fort and made a Report to the Governor, before he carried the vessel outside of the bar. Captain Sutherland declared, he was not aware that he ought to have stopped at Paknam, and as a proof that I was no party to his breach of the port regulations, I told the Prah Klang that I would direct the vessel to be brought back to Paknam, if the Prah Klang insisted upon it. I had before heard from several private sources, that a report which had excited much alarm, had been spread at Bangkok, stating that the Brig Guardian was returning to Penang for the purpose of leading the way to an expedition against Siam. I mentioned this report to the Prah Klang, enquired whether he could possibly believe that I would remain at Bangkok with my Family, if the vessel were returning to Penang for any hostile purpose, and desired him to signify to the King and Ministers, my readiness to call the Guardian back, and to detain her here should they entertain the slightest doubt of my intentions. The Prah Klang replied that he was about to proceed to the Palace where he would communicate my offer, and in the evening he sent me a message stating that the King and Ministers would not insist upon the Guardian being ordered back to Paknam, nor object to my dispatching her whereever I please.

120. On the 21st Captain Sutherland and Mr. Leal returned to the Brig and Junks with my dispatches for Penang and Mergui. To the Honorable the Governor of Prince of Wales Island I forwarded through the Resident of Singapore a Copy of my Journal from the 23d December to the 15th February inclusive, and to the Commissioner at Tavoy I forwarded through the Officer in Civil charge of Mergui a copy of my Journal from the 18th January to the 15th February inclusive. I drew up and forwarded at the same time a Report on the progress of my negotiations with this Court, No. 21.

121. On the 23d I learnt that the Serang of the Brig Guardian, a drunken worthless character, had absconded from the vessel, and that he had been seized and examined by the Wangna and other Siamese Officers of Rank, in reply to whose enquiries as to the object of my visiting Bangkok, and of the Guardian returning to Penang, he had uttered the most mischievous tales, declaring that I was collecting information in view to enable the English Armament, for which the Guardian was going down, to capture Bangkok with more ease, and that the Rajah of Ligore was in secret communication with me. Luckily the Serang in the course of his examination offered his Services against the English, if the Siamese would appoint him *Shah bunder*. of Bangkok a proposition which made the Wangna laugh heartily and which threw a doubt upon the whole of his alarming tales. The moment I heard this circumstance, and which I did from a person who was present at the examination of the Serang, I conceived it my duty to seize and confine him. I called at the same time on the Prah Klang, and apprizing him of the character of the Serang, and of my having heard that he was alarming the population of Bangkok with very mischievous lies against the British Government, I proposed that the Siamese Authorities should keep the

Serang in Confinement until the return of the Brig. The Prah Klang approved much of my having apprehended the Serang, but begged of me to keep him prisoner, as he feared if any accident occurred to the Serang whilst in the Custody of the Siamese, we should charge them with the cause of it.

122. On the 25th I saw the Rajah of Ligore who told me that the tales of the Serang had given him the greatest alarm and uneasiness, and who gave me some useful advice, as to the time and patience necessary to undeceive the Siamese respecting our hostile intentions. The Court I learnt, entertains strong suspicions that the British Government is now about to form a connection with Ava dangerous to the welfare of Siam, and these suspicions are much aggravated by the tales, which Chinese and Malays are daily bringing up from the Straits, of armaments preparing at Penang and Singapore.

123. On the 26th Pya Phi-phut brought to me a reply from the Ministers to my long letter No. 19 and I annex a translation of the same No. 22 with such observations as occur to me.

124. On the 27th February I received dispatches from Captains Fenwick and Williamson, apprizing me of the renewal of hostilities with the Burmese. On communicating the contents of these dispatches to the Prah Klang he seemed much pleased at the foresight shewn by this Court in their letter No. 20, advising the British Government not to place any reliance on the professions of the Burmese. He took down in writing the heads of the intelligence and laid it immediately before the King and the rest of the Ministers.

125. I again pressed the Prah Klang to advise the King, to depute a Siamese Chief to confer with our Officers at Martaban; but I was told that

such a measure was unnecessary so long as the War continued. In consequence of this unexpected renewal of hostilities with Ava I prepared some additional suggestions respecting Siamese negotiations (No. 23) to be submitted to the British Commissioners in Pegu and Ava.

126. On the 2nd of March a sum of 240 ticals was brought to me from the Prah Klang, with a communication that having forgotten to pay me during the last two months the established allowance from the King, he had now sent it to me for the two months at once. Although on my first arrival this very sum was presented to me as the allowance for only one month, the subject was too disagreeable for me to make any enquiries, and I suppressed my suspicion of the Prah Klang or some of his Officers having embezzled a moiety of what the King had directed them to send to me.

127. On the 3rd of March we heard that another Chinese had arrived overland from Penang and Singora confirming the intelligence that Troops and Ships are in readiness at Penang to be sent up against Bangkok. This intelligence joined to the malignant falsehoods of the Serang, has done me infinite mischief. The exertions to fortify the mouth of the Menam are redoubled, and every preparation is making to oppose our attack, the early arrival of which is now confidently expected. Not a syllable uttered by any of the Mission is credited, and the conduct of the Siamese towards us, has become uncourteous and suspicious to a very unpleasant degree. The Boatmen and Attendants that were allotted to us have been withdrawn.

128. On the 11th March Pya Phi-phut waited upon me with a dispatch from Captain Williamson dated 8th February. He told me that that Officer

had written at the same time to Maha Ayothia, who had sent down to the Court his letter together with mine. Pya Phi-phut listened with scarcely any attention to the contents of my dispatch as far as I communicated them to him, respecting the intentions of the Supreme Government to reestablish the Pegu monarchy, and when I requested him again to urge the Ministers to depute a Siamese Officer to confer on this subject with the British Officers at Martaban and Rangoon, he coolly replied that there is no use of considering what shall be the future condition of Pegu until the British Government have fully subdued the Burmese and secured their Conquests in Pegu.

129. On the 16th Pya-Phi-phut brought to me some further dispatches from Captains Fenwick and Williamson, but I observed that no portion of their contents which I communicated was credited.

130. On the following day I heard that Maha Ayothia had sent down intelligence of the Burmese having cut a ditch across the Country in the rear of the English Army under Sir Archibald Campbell, which can now neither advance nor retreat. This absurd tale is fully believed, and as a corroboration of it Pya Phi-phut apprized the King and Ministers, that I looked very grave and sorrowful at the receipt of the last dispatches from Martaban.

131. As long as this delusion lasts it is in vain for me to try to persuade the Court to accede to any thing I may propose, I shall therefore wait quietly and patiently until the return of the Brig Guardian, or until the receipt of accounts of the Capture of Umerapura. The Serang being considered by the Siamese as one of our own men, and as a person holding a respectable situation in our employ, his tales are judged most

worthy of belief, and it is hard that such a worthless character should be able to destroy in a few minutes, and with so much ease the whole fabric of confidence and good will which had cost me an unremitting exertion of three months to raise. He has been at Bangkok before, and being well aware of the character of the Siamese, he conceived that the more alarming tales he told, the more readily he would be believed, and the more certain he would be of receiving the presents promised to him by those who examined him.

132. The Prah Klang has been absent for several Days past at Paknam, contriving a Kind of Sluice Gate to shut up the mouth of the River. On the 20th I received a letter from Mr. Leal dated from Bangnarom informing me that one of the Six Junks conveying the Burmese prisoners had been separated and had not reached Bangnarom, and that he could not wait for her Arrival, as the provisions furnished to the Burmese were nearly exhausted. The Nakhoda of the missing Junk however waited upon me with the bearer of Mr. Leal's letter, to apprize me that the weather had taken him to Samroyet, at which place the Burmese prisoners, of whom he had 80 on board, insisted upon landing and crossing over from thence to the high Road at Bangnarom, and that he had afterwards joined the other Junks at Bangnarom but had seen no one on shore, the whole party having proceeded towards Mergui. Bangnarom and the country around it are stated to be a waste destitute of Inhabitants. At Samroyet there is a village consisting of only five or six huts.

133. On the 24 March the two Sepoys who had proceeded with dispatches to Tavoy on the 15th January returned with replies from Mr. Maingy the Commissioner. These Sepoys as well as those who had been deputed to Martaban, were taking a circuitous route. That the Journies to Martaban and

Tavoy ought not to have taken more than 22 or 12 days respectively I know from the testimony of several Pegu and Siamese travellers, as well as from the dates of some of the dispatches that had previously been brought to me from Captain Fenwick and Mr. Maingy. The sepoys were detained for a day or two by every petty Chief, and were taken over hills and through Jungles in which they saw no trace of a route. Hence they did not arrive at Martaban or Tavoy in less than a month after their departure from Bangkok. These Sepoys saw detachments of only 3 or 400 men with Maha Ayothia and Pya Chaiyok whereas the direct road to Tavoy, I am assured, is from Menam Noi. Pya Phi-phut laughed when I declared my belief that my messengers had been taken a circuitous route.

134. Pya Phi-phut called upon me this day and I gathered from him that Maha Ayothia had sent down intelligence of Sir Archibald Campbell's Army having 'invested Umerapura.' This intelligence as I had previously expected has excited a very great sensation, and I resolved upon forwarding to the Ministers without further delay my reply No. 24 to their letter No. 22 with the Draft of the Treaty No. 25. It appeared to me advisable to ascertain fully and to report to my Government at as early a date as possible the sentiments and feelings of the Court of Siam respecting the different objects which I am instructed to endeavour to attain.

135. On the 27th the Ship Hunter under Dutch Colours arrived from Singapore bringing me numerous Dispatches from Prince of Wales Island. The moment the Prah Klang received intelligence of her Arrival he hurried down to Paknam expecting as I was assured, that the Vessel was the first of the English Expedition against Siam. Fortunately the Commander Captain Johnstone has been here twice before in command of Mr. Hunter's Vessels, and his

presence disappointed the Prah Klang, and now renders him doubtful of the tales which have been brought to him of our hostile preparations.

135. On the Evening of the 29th Captain Macfarquhar waited upon the Prah Klang with my letter and Draft of a Treaty. The Minister read them over very attentively and promised to lay them before the King and the rest of the Ministers. He made but one observation, which was to ask, why the English insisted so pertinaciously on the restoration of the King of Quedah.

137. On the night of the same day I saw the Rajah of Ligor who begged of me in the most earnest manner to resign all idea of effecting the restoration of the King of Quedah, assuring me that the mind the King was fixed against such a measure, and that if I persisted in it (I) should only lose all the other objects of my mission. He asked me further to go and visit the Pya of Singora, who is about to return to his Government, and ascertain whether, what he, the Rajah of Ligor informed me as to the Sentiments of the King and Ministers respecting the King of Quedah is not perfectly correct. The Rajah stated that he wished to see me more frequently but was afraid to do so, because I differed from the Ministers on some points, and this difference, in the event of an intimate communication between the Rajah and myself, would be suspected to be fomented by him, and would cost him his life.

138. The Pya of Singora has been living here as a person without the smallest influence or consideration. He was two years ago sent up in Chains by the Rajah of Ligor by order of the Wangna for having refused to join in the execution of their schemes, for extending Siamese influence over the Malayan Peninsula. Shortly after his arrival here, the present monarch released him, a circumstance

which is said to have created some difference between the King and the Wangna who exercises the immediate superintendence of the Southern States, and who is more anxious than the King for the establishment of Siamese power over the Malay States. The Pya of Singora is said to have lately lost 500 Catties of Silver in gambling with Prince Krom Meun Surin and other Members of the Court; but I believe that Sum was paid by him as a bribe to these Officers to be allowed to return to his Government. Gambling however is a vice to which the principal Officers and Ministers of Siam are much addicted. The Gambling Farm at Bangkok yields as much as the Arrack farm viz. 1500 Catties of Silver per Annum, or 120,000 Ticals. During a certain annual festival the farm is set aside and liberty given to every person to gamble whereever and as much as he pleases and during every night of the whole of this stated period, the Prah Klang has a party at his house, where gambling for very large Sums is pursued throughout the night.

139. From the day (27 February) that I received intelligence of the renewal of the War with Ava, I have been urging the Prah Klang to give me a messenger to convey replies from me to Martaban. On the 31 March Samian Tra and Prah TooKrat called upon me, stating that the latter was about to return to Menam Noi on the following morning, and that he had been ordered to take charge of my letters. I prepared therefore Dispatches to the address of Captains Fenwick and Williamson, and through them to the British Commissioners in Pegu and Ava, and to Mr. Secretary Swinton at Fort William (No. 26) for the purpose of delivering the same on the following day to Prah TooKrat, whom I have already found a trustworthy Messenger.

104. The Rajah of Ligor sent me a message today informing me that the King and Ministers con-

sidered my memorial No. 24 and Treaty much more satisfactory Documents, than my preceding Memorials. Accounts were received this day of the arrival at Paknam of an American Ship 28 days from Batavia.

141. On the 1st April Prah Took-Krat called and received charge of my dispatches. On the same day the American Ship Liverpool Packet Captain Coffin arrived off Bangkok.

142. Soon after our arrival at Bangkok the Prah Klang promised to return my visit, a matter of etiquette that I conceived it incumbent upon me to make him perform, although I refrained from pressing it too much at first, as I was well aware that many of the Siamese Officers would have rather declined altogether a visit from me, than have previously engaged to return it. In the month of January Captain Macfarquhar waited upon the Prah Klang with a short letter from me pointing out to him, that as he had visited Mr. Crawford and the Portuguese Consul I must insist upon his fulfilling the promise, which he had made to me, of paying me a similar compliment. The Prah Klang gave a frivolous excuse for not having hitherto visited me, which he again promised so to do. During the last month I was privately told, that the Prah Klang had really no intention of keeping his promise, and that as he had been promoted to the Rank of a *Sinabudi* or Privy Councellor and a Chow Pya, since he had visited Mr. Crawford and the Portuguese Consul, he considered his visiting me would be a derogation from what he owed to himself. I prepared therefore an Address to the Ministers describing the high Situation which I have the honor to hold, and complaining of several instances of neglect and disrespect which the Prah Klang had manifested towards the representative of the Governor General, in not having returned his

visit, in not having paid him those little attentions, which the King of Siam had ordered to be paid to him, and particularly in having taken away the Boatmen who had been allowed to us—a deprivation from which we suffered much as we were unable to hire other men at Bangkok in the same manner as we could do in other Countries.

143. On the 2d April I presented this address to Pya Phi-phut to be delivered to the Ministers. He read it through very attentively and then begged of me to send it to the Prah Klang by one of my own Interpreters, stating that as his immediate Superior was so severely treated in this letter he was afraid to take charge of it. Pya Phi-phut possesses a remarkably tenacious memory and I heard that on that and on the following day he repeated to the Prah Klang and to the King and the other Ministers, almost the whole of the contents of my letter.

144. On the 6th I received a Message from the Rajah of Ligor entreating me not to send in the letter of Complaint against the Prah Klang, and assuring me that it I would only call upon that Minister, he would now return my visit and supply me with a requisite number of boatmen.

145. On the 10th I called upon the Prah Klang, who appeared at first a little out of humour, alluding to the letter of Complaint which I had prepared against him. I assured him that it was my sincere wish and intention to cultivate the most cordial good understanding with him; that with this view I had submitted to several instances of a want of proper consideration on his part, that I had delayed as long as possible from taking notice of his neglect to return my visit, but that I had a duty to fulfil towards the exalted personage whom I had the honor to represent, and

that I was determined to fulfil it. The Prah Klang stated that I ought to have given him time to return my visit, which he assured me he would now soon do; and he told me that it was not the Custom to supply Envoys at Bangkok with Boatmen and that no such persons were granted to Mr. Crawford but that, nevertheless, if he and I were friends, of course the Services of ten or twelve men could be no great object to grant to me. After some further conversation the Minister and I parted on apparently very friendly terms.

146. On the following day the 11th he sent me a Message stating that he had ordered 10 Boatmen to be sent to me; that he was obliged to go down to Paknam for two or three days, but that he would pay me a visit the moment he returned.

147. On the evening of the 15th the Prah Klang accompanied by his brother Pya Si-phi-phut paid me a visit. The approach of rain made it a short one, but still the Minister made himself as conciliatory and agreeable as it is in his power to be. He now visited me and the Boatmen were restored to me I understood, by the especial direction of the King.

148. On the 16th I called upon the Prah Klang to discuss with him that part of the commercial regulations respecting which the Ministers in their last reply referred me to him. He told me that 1500 ticals per fathom of breadth, which I proposed every Vessel under English Colours should pay in lieu of every other charge and duty, would be too great a reduction. I endeavored to point out to him, that the lower this duty was fixed the more English Vessels would be induced to visit Siam. The Prah Klang denied this and argued that the more Vessels that visited Siam, the more Import and Export Duties would be lost to the

Siamese by the proposed regulations. It cost me much trouble to make the Minister understand, that the present high rates of Duties admitted of only 2 or 3 English Vessels annually visiting Siam, but that if the duties were lower the number of Vessels would increase perhaps to 10 or 12—that such an increase nothing but a reduction of the duty would effect and that 10 or 12 vessels at 6000 Ticals each would prove much more profitable to the King than 2 or 3 at 11 or 12,000 Ticals independent of the advantage that the Subjects of Siam would reap since the increase of vessels produced an increased demand for the productions of the Country. This last advantage however is one to which the Siamese Government is not accustomed to make any reference. The Prah Klang then urged me to agree, that although English Traders and Merchants might buy and sell whereever they please, still no purchase or Sale should be made without the Officers of the Prah Klang being first advised of the same. I protested against this plan, being well aware that to establish the Intervention of the Prah Klang's Officers, would be tantamount to placing the Trade entirely in their hands, in the same mischievous manner as at present, when no Siamese dares sell or buy upon any other terms than those which the Prah Klang is pleased to fix. A public order may be issued for any person to buy or sell from or to the Foreign Merchant, but it is always accompanied by a secret order for no one to presume to do so at any other prices than those charged by the Prah Klang. I learnt that the Prah Klang desired to establish this rule for the purpose of preventing the Foreign Merchant from introducing any contraband goods, and of preventing the sale of stolen property on the part of the Siamese. But the greatest objection to such a rule is, that it would enable the Government at any time to levy a duty upon the sales of the home merchant, and thus indirectly impose an additional burthen on the foreign

merchant, who would have to pay a proportional advanced price for his purchases. This consideration obliges me also to try and have the consolidated duty fixed at as low a rate as possible. When I returned home I conceived it proper to repeat in writing in a letter to the Ministers the grounds upon which I urged the Prah Klang to agree to the Duty being fixed at 1500 Ticals per fathom, and I stated in my letter that as I had reported to the Supreme Government the amount which I had offered, I questioned whether I possessed the power to make any alteration in it until I received a reply from Bengal, and that at all events I hoped they would not treat my Offer as that of a Merchant.

149. I learnt this day that the deputation which this Court has for many months past meditated sending to Tringano sailed a few days ago in two Junks. The Chief of the Mission is the person mentioned in Mr. Crawford's Journal by the name of Kho-Chai-sahak, but he is more generally called "Nakhoda Ullee." He is of Malayan extraction, and from all I have heard, I believe him to be a very treacherous and mischievous character.

150. During the last 15 days the Celebration of the Siamese New Year, and the presence of two Ships, have afforded abundance of Employment to the whole of the Officers of Government. The proceedings of the Prah Klang and his Officers with respect to these Ships Hunter and Liverpool Packet, have enabled me to witness such instances of extortion and lying on the one side and of loss of time, money and temper on the other, as perhaps no other port in the world could have shown. My discussions with the Court, and the prospect of some revision of the present system of conducting foreign trade, seem to have filled the petty Officers of the Prah Klang with a desire of reaping as rich a harvest as possible from these two Ships. Messrs. Hunter and

Mallock who have been allowed to reside here during the last 20 months, have of late experienced every vexation and impediment which the ingenuity of these Officers could devise. Those Gentlemen having given me much of the Information, which enables me to expose the rapacity of the Prah Klang's department, and having also afforded some highly useful knowledge to the Commander of the American Vessel, they have naturally brought down upon themselves the whole malice of the Siamese Officers, who now see that if European Merchants are allowed to remain in Siam, they will acquire too great insight into Siamese mal-practices, and save other foreign Merchants, that may visit Bangkok, from extortion and Imposition. Captain Johnson of the Hunter having been told by the Prah Klang to go and purchase in the Market whatever Sugar he required, he purchased a small quantity from a Siamese woman and had it duly weighed and put into his vessel during the day time, but shortly after the woman who had sold it, was seized and put in Irons. Upon hearing this circumstance on the 17th I called on the Prah Klang, who informed me the woman was punished because she had made the sale without having previously advised his officers of it. I remonstrated against this cruel procedure, and urged the Minister to consider that it was absurd to say that English Merchants, may go and buy and sell whereever they please as the King had desired they might be allowed. No person would dare to have any commercial intercourse with them, after what had been done to this woman, and I must protest against the plan of calling upon the party, who might be the seller, to come first and make a report to the Officers of the Prah Klang. Such a plan would not only create much loss of time, but tend to destroy all confidence between the Siamese and English merchants. After some further discussion the Prah Klang agreed to release the poor woman. So long

as the public Officers at Bangkok, are allowed to engage in Commerce, I do not see how any thing like a free trade can be established, or their privilege of pre-emption effectually abolished. The American Commander Captain Coffin has agreed with the Prah Klang for a Cargo of Sugar at 6 Dollars or 9¾ Ticals per pecul, including the duty. Captain Kinsman of the Siren paid that high price ; and as usual in Siam, it has become a precedent, and it will be long before any American will be able to procure the Article at a lower rate. Mr. Hunter however can purchase the same description of Sugar in the market for 1 tical less including the duty, but the moment his purchases and arrangements for loading his vessel interfered with the supplies of the Prah Klang to Captain Coffin, all competition, was crushed by authority, and the Sugar holders and Owners of Junks were intimidated against attending to their engagements with Mr. Hunter until the American is fully supplied. And thus it has ever been, and ever will be at Bangkok.

151. On the same day Pya Phi-phut called upon me, accompanied by three * of the Burmese whom Mr Maingy had sent from Tavoy with my last dispatches, and whom Chow Pya Maha Ayothia detained at Menam-noi until he received an order from the Court to suffer them to come down to the Capital.

* Khool Phlu Mooaya and Mogou.

152. Desirous of ascertaining, at as early a date as possible the Sentiments of the Court with respect to the Draft of a Treaty which I had forwarded on the 29th March, I had been, since that date, almost daily pressing for a reply, but no argument can urge a Siamese to greater activity or exertion than what he has been used to. At last on the 19th April Pya Phi-phut called upon me with the long expected reply from the Ministers, of which I annex a translation No. 27, and with the Draft of a Treaty proposed by them in lieu of that which I had presented. This

curious Treaty was written with Pencil in a Siamese Black Book, and Pya Phi-phut told me that it was sent merely for my inspection and opinion. I found however that it omitted all the most important stipulations proposed in my Draft, and included only the Port Regulations of Bangkok with three or four of the last Articles of my Treaty. I could not avoid ridiculing such a document, and pointing out to Pya Phi-phut that it engaged nothing on either side; I observed that were I to show it to my Superiors, or convey it to any other part of the world, I should only bring disgrace on the name and character of the Siamese Government. The Ministers Reply is a formidable paper of 15 feet long and I have endeavored to make my translation of it as close to the original as the idioms of the two languages will allow.

153. On the 21st Pya Phi-phut called and kept me several hours discussing the Ministers Draft of a Treaty. He took minutes of my observations upon each Article for the information of the Ministers, and requested me to see the Prah Klang on the following day. He informed me that the King of Siam had determined upon deputing a Mission to Bengal.

154. On the 22nd I called on the Prah Klang according to agreement and again went over the Ministers' Draft of a Treaty, article by article, and my observations were again noted down by Pya Phi-phut. I insisted upon the 2d, 8th and 9th Articles of my Draft being included. The Prah Klang offered to agree that English Vessels coming to trade at Bangkok, should be charged 2,000 Ticals per fathom of breadth if they brought an Import Cargo, and 1,500 Ticals per fathom if they came for an Export Cargo only. I was informed that English Merchants should be allowed to buy and sell whereever they might please without obstruction, and that His Majesty had ordered the abolition of the duty which

had hitherto been levied upon Junks conveying the residue of a Cargo to a vessel outside of the Bar.

155. I declined to enter into any discussion respecting Perak, declaring only to the Prah Klang that the Ministers were most incorrect in stating that Perak had 10 years ago of its own account transmuted the *Boonga Mas* to the Chow Pya of Ligor—that I was at Prince of Wales Island in 1814 when the discussion respecting the Raja of Quedah attacking Perak first arose, and again in 1817 and 1818, when the Raja's forces conquered Perak; and that I knew from my own personal knowledge, that the Raja of Perak had not of his own accord sent the *Boonga Mas*, but that he had been made to do so by force and violence, and after his country had been laid waste and destroyed most cruelly by the Rajah of Quedah.

Mr. Secretary Clubley's dispatch to Mr. Secy. Adam with its enclosures dated P. W. Isld. 27 January 1814. Mr. Secry. Adam's reply dated 25 Febry. 1814. Mr. Secry. Clubleys dispatch to Mr. Secy. Mackenzie with its enclosures dated 26 June 1818 Mr. Crawfords report of his Mission to Perak dated 3d August 1818 Dispatch from the Supreme Govt. to the Govt. of P. W. Island dated 28 Nov. 1818. In the 5 para of this last

156. Referring to the documents cited in the Margin and to some facts well known at Penang, I trust my Superiors will consider me justified in drawing the following conclusions. The Government of Prince of Wales' Island, under an erroneous representation from the Rajah of Quedah that Perak was formerly Vassal to Siam, not only used every exertion to persuade the late Rajah of Perak to submit to Siamese domination, but encouraged the Rajah of Quedah to conquer Perak, and actually furnished him with the munitions of War by which that unhappy country was conquered and destroyed. The Government of Prince of Wales Island would never have followed such a course if it had been aware what the Siamese Ministers have now disclosed, that Siam had not, previous to that date, any right or claim whatever over Perak. The British Government having thus been instrumental in the ruin and destruction of Perak, it will now perform no more than an Act of common Justice to protect Perak, and prevent the Siamese replacing over that State the yoke which the

dispatch the Supreme Govt. observe "It "may be ques- "tioned indeed "whether we "could with "justice op- "pose any pro- "ceeding of the "Netherlanders "directed to "the resump- "tion of this "authority "(of Malacca "over the Chief "of Perak) "which though "disused was "never form- "ally relinqui- "shed, either "by the Dutch "or by the "British during "our posses- "sion."

Rajah of Salangore assisted it to throw off. For such a purpose nothing but a declaration of its intention will be necessary on the part of the British Government. There is not the smallest chance of the Siamese acting against such a declaration.

157. I learnt this day that letters had just been received from Pya Kray at Chimpohun stating that an English Officer had arrived there from Mergui with the whole of the Siamese Captives, and for the purpose of receiving charge of the Burmese prisoners, according to the arrangement concluded between this Court and me.

158. The Epidemic Cholera has been committing great ravages at Bangkok, during the last six or seven days, and particularly among the crowded population within the Palace where we are told 300 persons have died. The Siamese men of Rank, as preventative, take large doses of crude quicksilver—but when attacked the medical men treat their patient most unskilfully, permitting him to use the cold bath, and to drink cold water. Yet the character of the present Epidemic must be of a milder description than that prevailing in India, as the sufferer generally holds out for two or three days. The only person whom the Medical Officer of the Mission, Mr. Harris has been allowed to attend, was soon cured.

159. On the 26th April the Burmese messengers from Tavoy being about to return I delivered to their charge despatches for Mr. Commissioner Maingy containing a continuation of my Journal and its appendix from the 18 February to the present date. Pya Phi-phut called with the Burmese Messengers, and gave me reason to believe that as soon as the Epidemic abates the Siamese Ministers will consent to a proposition, which I had made, of attending to discuss with

the whole six, and finally settle the several Articles of a Treaty.

160. Pya Ratanachak, whom Captain Fenwick lately sent out of Martaban, arrived here on the 29th with a vague report of the Burmese having treacherously attacked and destroyed the English Army whilst retiring from the Country, in conformity with the Treaty of Peace concluded at Yandaboo. The most mischievous effect of such reports is, that it augments the spirit of procrastination which characterizes the Siamese at all times, and adds to the difficulties of bringing my negotiations with the Ministers to a close.

161. On the 1st of May I paid a visit to Pya Singora, who is to return to his Government in the ensuing month. He is about 48 Years of age and of a very dark complexion, without the slightest trace of the Chinese. I found that his grandfather, and not his father, as I had heard at Penang, was a Chinese. His manners are unusually blunt for a Siamese, but he appears well disposed towards the English. He expressed his readiness to cultivate a cordial understanding with the Honorable the Governor of Penang, and to permit and encourage a useful commercial intercourse between his territories and the contiguous British Settlements. He spoke much more boldly than I had expected respecting the affairs of the Rajah of Quedah, regretted that His Highness had not asked his advice or friendly offices, denied having ever received the letters, which His Highness told me he had addressed to him; and said that His Highness is now entirely ruined, and that it is too late for any one to be of use to him, pointedly asking me, "when the fish becomes rotten, what can we do to recover it?" The Pya shewed, very naturally, a little bad feeling towards the Rajah of Ligor, and asked me with an expressive laugh, whether

I could not persuade that Rajah to befriend the King of Quedah.

162. Captain Coffin of the American Ship Liverpool Packet, proposing on his return to Batavia to touch at Rhio, between which port and Singapore there exists a regular intercourse, I prepared this day, in order to deliver to Captain Coffin's charge, a dispatch addressed to the Honble. the Governor of Penang through the Acting Resident of Singapore, conveying a copy of the continuation of my Journal from the 15th February to this date and of the Appendix to the same from No. 22 to No. 27 inclusive.

(Signed) H. BURNEY Captain
Envoy to the Court of Siam.

NOTES.

I learn that notwithstanding the positive declarations in my Memorial No. 19, the Court of Siam believes that the British Government intends to take possession of the whole of the Malayan Peninsular States. When I can make the Ministers fully comprehend the extent and nature of my representation concerning Tringano and Calantan, they will, I am privately informed join in a mutual engagement, that neither the British nor Siamese Troops or subjects shall invade or molest those two States in any manner.

With respect to Perak and Salangore some advantage is gained in the Ministers' acknowledging in the above reply, that it is but very recently that Perak became subject to Siam; a fact that proves that the late Rajah of Perak was fully justified in refusing to send the *Boonga Mas* and *Perak* and that the Rajah of Quedah deceived the Government of Prince of Wales Island into permitting him to force Perak to pay homage to Siam. After this, the British Government can have no hesitation in prohibiting Siamese interference in any manner with Perak, and I believe that when the Court of Siam becomes acquainted with the proofs, that Perak has been connected with Malacca since the middle of the Seventeenth Century, it will resign all pretensions over that State.

I regret to find, the information previously given me by the Rajah of Ligore, of the indisposition of the Court of Siam to accede to my proposition concerning the restoration of the King of Quedah is so true. The language of the refusal, however, as it was pointed out to me by Pya

Phi-phat himself, is not so decisive as to preclude all further application on my part. Indeed I never believed, that the Court would readily yield this point, and I was prepared to use reiterated efforts. Addresses were lately presented to the King and Wang-na by Tuanku Anum, in the name of 30 of the principal inhabitants of Quedah whose *Chops* appear on the addresses, assuring their Majesties that with the exception of 1 or 200 persons only, who have left Queda, the whole of its inhabitants are happy under the Siamese Government, and most averse to the restoration of the King of Quedah. I was informed by a person who witnessed the presentation of the address to the King that his Majesty interrogated Tuanku Anum much, and openly expressed his disbelief, that the Malayan Inhabitants of Quedah preferred the Siamese Government to the restoration of their own King. I regret to state, that I have not found at Bangkok a single friend of the King of Queda. Twanku Anum was employed by his Highness I understand, to convey the *Boonga Mas* to Siam on one or two occasions, and as he and some other chiefs have attached themselves to the Rajah of Ligor, it is natural to believe that they must fear the return of the King of Quedah. But the fact of the Court believing that only one or two hundred of the Inhabitants of Quedah have left that Country, proves how slowly truth reaches the ear of a despotic monarch. I am sorry to add that another party of 150 poor inhabitants of Queda has very recently been brought to Bangkok, and distributed by the Rajah of Ligor as *slaves* among the principal Courtiers who were deprived of the services of the Mergui Captives. These Malays are treated by their Masters most cruelly, and every motive of humanity calls upon the British Government to try and put a stop to the slave trade, in the Dominions of an old Ally, and in the very sight of the British Government of Prince of Wales' Island.

The Rajah of Ligor is at present so much alarmed at the tales received by the Court of his being in secret communication with me for purposes dangerous to the Welfare of Siam, that he dare not afford me the assistance, which I know it is in his power and which he promised to afford me here. In short agreeably to Siamese customs he would, I believe, now rather go out of his way to do me an injury. I have had repeated occasion of seeing, that those persons who are secretly giving me most assistance, and the best proofs of their good will, in public and before their neighbours, show and express not an indifference but an absolute opposition of my views. Such is the dread of being considered my friend. That the Rajah of Ligor possesses much influence here, no proof can be stronger than the fact of his eldest Son having been just appointed Pya of Merdalong. The Serang of the Brig Guardian having twice before visited Bangkok, knew exactly the description of tale, that the Siamese would most readily credit. The Rajah of Ligor is said to be a posthumous Son of King Pya Tac and to possess a right to the throne of Siam. No tale therefore could be more mischievous than that which described His Highness as being in secret communication with me, for the purpose of obtaining possession of the throne with the assistance of the British Government,

The reply from the Ministers on the subject of Trade is satisfactory so far that no attempt is made to deny the accuracy of any of the facts stated in my Memorial, and a disposition is shewn to make some alterations in the present system, than which it is impossible to establish a worse. His Majesty approves of the plan of levying upon our Vessels one fixed sum in lieu of the numerous and various charges now levied but the reference to the Prah Klang, to arrange and fix the details of this plan is unfortunate, as that Minister is not only deeply interested in the

continuation of the present system, but is most hostile to the British Government. I have used without success every exertion in my power to win and soothe this Minister. I have refrained from resenting several instances of his coarseness and arrogance, believing conciliation to be the great object of my Mission. But avarice, selfishness and ignorance, compose the sole ingredients of this man's character, and intimidation appears to me the only mode of working upon it. I must however, make much allowance for him. My first measure obliging the Court to surrender the Mergui Captives, put a stop to a splendid temple which many of them were engaged in building for this Minister, and my subsequent measures have been directed against the extortions and embezzlements, which he has practiced for Years upon British Trade and Shipping, and which he considers as legitimate perquisites. The Prah Klang's ignorance makes him very credulous. He implicitly believes every tale that is brought to Bangkok of the hostile intentions of the British Government against Siam, and of the disasters experienced by the British forces in Ava. He is now actually employed in making a kind of Sluice-gate, at the very mouth of the Menam, by which the expedition preparing at Penang against Siam, an account of which was lately brought here by a Chinese, may be effectually precluded from ascending the river.

On the subject of the removal of the Guns from a Vessel before she is permitted to come up to Bangkok, I am of opinion, after much consideration, that to press this matter during the present state of distrust in which the Court is respecting our views and intentions, will be of no avail, and will only serve to augment its suspicions, and hazard the other more important objects of my Mission. The custom by which a Vessel is obliged to land her guns at the mouth of the river must have been introduced at the time the French Detachments

were driven out of Siam. M. Chaumont mentions having been saluted by the Guns of English and Dutch Vessels lying above Bangkok, and of vessels at anchor off the old city of Yothia, having fired salutes in celebration of the Coronation of the Kings of Portugal and England. Loubère makes no mention of the custom. The vessel in which Kaempfer came to Siam does not appear to have ascended above the Dutch Fort Amsterdam, close to the present village of Paknam. But Captain Hamilton who visited Siam in 1717 mentions his having been obliged to land and deposit his Guns at Bangkok; before his vessel proceeded to the old Capital Yothia. The regulation, I find is enforced by the Siamese, not only as a measure of precaution and and safety, but as a security against a Commander leaving the port with any of the inhabitants of Siam, or without discharging the whole of his port charges and duties.

I am sorry to report that since the renewal of our intercourse with Siam, during the last 6 or 7 Years, the Commander of almost every British Vessel, has had differences with the Siamese, and has left them an unfavorable impression of the violence and intemperance of the British Character. The truth is, none but men of the most placid and placable temper ought to visit Siam. It requires the exertion of the most unwearied patience, and of the most imperturbable temper to conduct business at Siam, and refrain from resenting in some manner the falsehoods, extortions, and barefaced attempts at imposition, that one daily encounters from the most contemptible race in Asia. Some of the Commanders of English Vessels, and I am told a Dutch Officer, who parted bad friends with the Siamese, have revenged themselves afterwards, by writing alarming letters to the Prah Klang and other persons at Bangkok, informing them that the English would soon come and chastise the Siamese. A spirituous liquor *Shumshoo* is extremely cheap at

Bangkok, and it is scarcely possible to prevent a clandestine introduction of it on board of Vessels. The Siamese viewed with the utmost horror the conduct of the European Sailors belonging to one or two English Vessels that came here with European Crews. It is much to be regretted that no communication was made to this Court, after Mr. Crawford's Mission, remonstrating against the uncourteous and illiberal manner in which he was treated. All preceding Ambassadors had been visited by the principal Siamese Officers, had been allowed Boats and Attendants, and had been admitted to private audiences of the King. The Siamese are professedly much attached to ancient customs, but with respect to Mr. Crawford, the present Prah Klang, as it has been owned to me by several Siamese, introduced a new mode of treating an Ambassador, which mode as no proper representations against it were made by the British Government at the time, is become a precedent, and I am now daily obliged to parry or overrule the remark "this was not permitted or granted to Mr. Crawford." Our successes against Ava have given the Siamese a more correct knowledge of our power and means, and to them I am entirely indebted, for any instances of courtesy, shewn to me by this Court, beyond those which Mr. Crawford received. Since the rumour however of our collecting Troops at Penang, in order to attack Siam, the attendants and boatmen that had been allotted to us have been withdrawn, and the incivility defended by the remark "no such people were given to Mr. Crawford."

It is impossible to conceive the mischief that is done at Bangkok by the tales of terror brought from the Straits by those who, seeing the Siamese already mistrustful of our views and intentions, tell them whatever they will most readily believe, and most like to hear. Fortunately true courage and suspicion are seldom companions. If the Siamese possessed only

as much spirit as they show distrust, they would several months ago have been incited to declare war against the British Government, and to attack some of our Conquests on the Coast of Tennasserim. I am sorry to state that the Chinese also, are most unfavorable to the increase of British Commerce at Bangkok and foster the alarms of the Court, bringing up numerous tales of Troops and Ships collecting at Penang and Singapore for the purpose of attacking Siam. Nothing favorable respecting the English will be believed. but every thing unfavorable, greedily received. A thousand falsehoods have been taken to the King and Ministers respecting my conversations and actions. The more extravagant the tale, the more readily is it believed, and as a proof that no caution or prudence can prevent such fabrications, I will only mention that during Mr. Crawford's residence here the Prah Klang was told and he believes the tale to this day, that that gentleman had formed a design of shooting the Minister. I have heard and have proved the falsehood of at least 10 or 12 such absurd tales respecting myself. But unhappily a Chinese or Siamese of the very lowest class is believed in preference to a European. During the present state of excitement to which the tales of these incendiaries have brought the Court, I find my best course is to remain quiet and silent, for not the slightest credit is accorded to any one of my declarations. Such is the perverseness of a Siamese Minister's understanding, that the very circumstances of the British Government having deputed an Envoy to improve friendship, and of that Envoy having placed himself entirely in the power of the Court, by sending away the Mission Vessel, and depriving himself of the means of making a precipitate retreat, circumstances which a European Nation would consider as the best evidences of the sincerity of that Envoys proceeding, are deemed by the Siamese the strongest proofs of the treacherous and hostile intentions of the Envoy and of the British Government. I am said to

be gathering information respecting the localities of the Country, while the vessel has been sent down to lead the English Expedition suddenly into Bangkok. I am assured also that the Ministers are hesitating to accede to all the propositions contained in my Memorial No. 19 from some strange impression that their acquiescence even, would not prevent the Governor General from attacking Siam after my departure.

Soon after our arrival at Bangkok, I learnt that the Court was considering the propriety of deputing some Siamese Envoys to accompany me back to Bengal. I would not then encourage the measure, believing that the Envoys whom the Court would send, would be men of very subordinate rank and character, and native christians, who would possess no power or authority to conclude a Treaty, or to enter into any arrangements with the British Government. Upon further consideration, and adverting particularly to the distrust which has been excited against us, I am of opinion that such a measure would be best calculated to remove the fears of the Siamese, and to inspire them with more friendly feelings towards us. I mentioned it to the Prah Klang, Pya Phi-phut and to some other Officers, who all highly approved of it. It may not be generally known that there are numerous precedents in favor of Siam deputing Ambassadors. In former times Envoys were thrice sent to France and repeatedly to Persia. Ambassadors were once deputed to the King of Portugal, and were wrecked off the Cape of Good Hope, and Envoys were sent to Macao so late as 1821. But there is no foundation for the story, published in some of the Calcutta Journals, of Envoys having been recently sent from Siam to Batavia. On the contrary there appears to exist a very unfriendly feeling on the part of Siam against the Government of Netherlands India.

There are objections and the Supreme Government is fully aware of them, against the formation of a Treaty with Siam. Yet as a means of improving our Trade, and of preventing disputes, now that the British Government is come into more extensive contact with the Siamese, I have drafted the accompanying Treaty of Friendship and Commerce between the two Governments. It appears to me to include all that is necessary and it will not draw the British Government into any complicated or hazardous relations, while it will set at rest some questions pending between the two Countries, and threatening sooner or later to produce a rupture. It will lead the Court of Siam also to put more faith in our friendly declarations, and lastly it may serve as a useful introduction to the Envoys whom the Court of Siam may depute to the Right Honorable the Governor General. The Capture of Umerapura will make a very great impression on the Councils of this Court, and that event I am assured by many secret friends will induce the Ministers to accede to every proposition which I have submitted to them. The moment I hear of it I shall forward this Treaty and the accompanying Memorial No. 24 to the Ministers.

A particular statement of the different charges levied upon a vessel was heretofore always refused, but on the day the above answer to my Memorial was received, the Prah Klang allowed a Copy to be taken out of the Records of his Office of the several Items put down as composing the amount respectively charged against the English Brig Shannon and American Brig Siren. A more absurd attempt to give a colour to imposition was perhaps never made than what these official accounts show. I annex a Copy of them with some explanations. Upon remonstrating with the Prah Klang against the measure of charging the same heavy rate of duty upon a British Vessel, which had returned to Bangkok from Singapore for

a second Cargo in less than two months, the Minister sagaciously asked why that Vessel had returned, as the Siamese entertained no particular regard for it.

Brig Shannon.

Measurement duty on 3 fm. 1 Cubit at 40 Ticals per fathom ...	222.3.0
A present for the King	130.0.0
Space occupied in the river by the vessel	27.0.0
2 Chokies or Watch houses	432.0.0
For importing Chintz	19.2.0
For exporting Elephants Teeth	15.3.1
For exporting Sapan Wood	6.0.0
Ticals ...	853.0.1

All this for the King.

Officers.

Pya Chula	80.2.1
Port Captain	44.2.0
Radsithi	38.2.0
Interpreters	38.2.0
Pomat	13.0.0
Semurat and Sebastian	26.0.0
Godown Keepers ...	25.0.0
Luang Souton	12.0.0
Measuring Ship	2.0.0
Samian Tra	15.2.0
4 Clerks	32.2.0
Head Clerk	12.0.0
Clerks superintending weighing	36.0.0
Servants of the Prah Klang	6.0.0
All the Clerks at 1 sling per day	168.0.0
	550.0.1
For the Second King his Officers, Servants &ca.	60.1.0
Total Ticals ...	1,463.2.0
Paid to Radsithi ...	1,546.0.0

Brig Siren.

Measurement duty on 3 fms. 1 Cubit 4 Inches at 40 Ticals per fathom	217.3.1
A present for the King	130.0.0
Space occupied in the river by the vessel	18.0.0
2 Chokies or Watch houses	424.0.0
Ticals ...	789.3.1

Officers.

Pya Chulah	48.0.0
Port Captain	12.0.0
Radsithi	6.0.0
Interpreters	6.0.0
Luang Wisit	12.0.0
Samian Tra ...	7.2.0
4 Clerks	20.0.0
Pya Chula's Clerk ...	20.0.0
Port Captains Clerk ...	20.0.0
Radsithi's Clerk ...	17.0.0
Clerks and interpreters	17.0.0
Pomat's Clerk	5.0.0
Measuring Ship ...	5.0.0
Semurat and Sebastian	10.0.0
Clerks superintending weighing	12.0.0
Other Clerks	12.0.0
All Clerks at 1 Sling per day	48.0.0
Custom House Officers	24.0.0
Measuring Ship	8.0.0
Second King his Officers &ca.	40.1.0
	349.3.0
Total Ticals	1,139.2.1
Paid Span Drs. ...	569.0.0

These accounts are said to have been made out by Radsithi, who is Mercantile Clerk to the King of Siam and Son of Pya Chula, his Majesty's Merchant, a descendant from a Chulia or native of the Coast of Coromandel. The rate of measurement duty, 40 Ticals per fathom, set down in these accounts agrees with what Mr. Crawford while at Bangkok understood to be the established charge upon a Brig, but the amount charged upon the breadth of each of those vessels shews the calculation was actually made at the rate of nearly 70 Ticals per fathom. What is called the measurement duty was always considered in the light of an anchorage duty. The charge in these accounts for "the space occupied in the river" by each vessel, is an Anchorage duty under another name.

Commanders of Vessels and Merchants have always been called upon to make presents of Muskets, Watches and other Articles to the King, ignorant that a charge as a present for his Majesty was included in the amount of Port Charges levied upon their vessels.

The Chokies are two posts between Paklaat and Bangkok, and the sums here charged on account of them are capable of defraying the whole expense of their Establishments for more than a twelvemonth.

The Charges for importing Chintz and for exporting Elephant's Teeth, and Sapan Wood are additional Import and Export duties. The Chintz had already paid an Import duty of 8 per Cent on the sales. The Elephants Teeth an Export duty of 10 Ticals and the Sapan Wood an Export duty of 1 Tical per pecul.

The Port Captain of Bangkok has no Clerk, and he assures me that he never received the Amount charged the American Brig on account of himself and his Clerk.

Radsithi is Pya Chulas Clerk. He makes the American Brig pay him once by name, and once as his father's clerk.

Sebastian is employed only as an interpreter, but he is charged for once by name and once among the Interpreters. Simurat is Radsithi's brother and may be styled his Clerk.

Samian Tra (Clerk of the Seals) is the Prah Klang's head Clerk. He is charged for once by name, once as the head Clerk, and once as Luang Wisit, the little he holds from the King.

Pomat is a natural brother of the Prah Klang, and has no concern whatever with the Cargoes of the two Brigs. Luang Souton is another natural brother of the Prah Klang.

Two Clerks only were employed in superintending the weighing and measuring the Cargoes of these Vessels, and an ample charge is made for their trouble. But who are the "other Clerks" and "all the Clerks" set down in the charges of the American Brig, no one can tell.

The Prah Klang's servants charged for in these accounts are his personal domestics. The American Brig's duties were virtually reduced to 924 Ticals by the Prah Klang receiving the amount in Spanish Dollars, at the rate of 8 Slings or two Ticals per Dollar. The usual rate of Exchange, and at which rate the American Commander had made all his preceding payments, is 6½ Slings per Dollar. The American is twice charged for measuring his Brig. He most probably paid this fee, when the vessel was measured; at which time it is usual for the Siamese Officers to require payment. Radsithi cannot account for the difference between the sum exhibited in this

Statement of the charges of the Brig Shannon, and the sum actually paid to him; a difference of 82 Ticals and 2 Slings.

Captain Kinsman of the American Brig Siren addressed a short note to me from outside of the bar, complaining of the treatment which he had received from the Prah Klang's Officers and expressing his determination of never revisiting Siam, and of publishing in America an Account of the mode in which trade is conducted at Bangkok. I delivered the note to the Prah Klang, who appeared to feel the animadversions of the American.

(Signed) H. BURNEY, Captain.
Envoy to the Court of Siam.

No. 22.

Reply from the Ministers of Siam to Captain Burney's Memorial No. 19.

Captain Henry Burney has written to the Ministers of Siam, stating that the war between the English and Burmese being now concluded, Siam can derive no advantage from that affair; but that the Governor General of Bengal having deputed Captain Burney to endeavour to establish friendship with Siam, Captain Burney shews what is the true way of establishing between the English and Burmese a friendship that may last an hundred years. That the English do not want a Factory for the residence of a Consul, neither do they, nor can they ask for any territory subject to Siam. They only desire, that Siam shall not make war against, or disturb any of the Malayan Countries, and that the Merchants of the English Nation may be allowed to come and trade with freedom and facility. If Siam concedes all these points, the English will rest very satisfied. There are many more matters mentioned in Captain Burney's Letter. The Chow Pya Prah Klang submitted them to His Majesty the King, who having fully understood the whole, was pleased to issue the following Orders.

For what the Governor General of Bengal has done in deputing Captain Burney to endeavour to establish friendship with the Siamese, we return him many thanks. We think the whole of this proceeding is right, and according to custom. The Siamese desire to form with the English an intimate and increasing friendship. As to what Captain Burney wishes to know, how friendship between the Siamese and English may endure for a hundred years; if purity be cherished and the heart be sincere on both sides, if the beginning and end, and what is first said, and what is last said be the same; if the character and laws of either Country be observed

The word "Burmese" in the 10th line from top of this page should evidently be "Siamese."

according to the Customs of such Country, and no desire shewn to transgress or infringe the boundaries between the two Countries, friendship will be then eternal, and endure a hundred and a thousand years, without diminution.

What Captain Burney says respecting the States of Calantan and Tringano, those two Countries have faithfully and profitably to themselves, continued under the Orders of Siam, sending it the Gold and Silver Flowers for a long time. Siam has been very kind to them, has aggrandized them, and has established and protected them, so that they might remain in peace and happiness. The States of Calantan and Tringano cannot commit any fault, nor have they thought of doing any thing against Siam in the same manner as the Governor of Queda. They reverence and respect Siam faithfully and properly, and remain well and peaceably. What do the Siamese desire to do?

The States of Salengore and Perak formerly, the Siamese know, were not subject to any Country, when the State of Perak came to supplicate Siam to live under its orders and to send it the tribute of the Golden and Silver Flower, in the same manner as the States of Calantan and Tringano. The State of Salengore; insolent and without respect for Siam, raised an Army and came and conquered Perak; seizing the Paknam (or Port) of Perak, preventing the people of the Country from Trade and intercourse. Perak was in a state of commotion, (literally boiling hot). Siam then raised an Army to go and put down and not permit Salengore to do any thing against Perak, because Perak was subject to the orders and enjoying the benefits of Siam. The English said that Salengore was subject to their orders, and that they were unwilling to let the Siamese go, that they would send back Raja Hussain, the Nephew * of the Raja of Salengore, who had come and settled by force at the Paknam of

* The Siamese word Lan is a term applied to a Grandson as well as to a Nephew.

Perak, and that they would not allow Salengore to go again and attack or molest Perak. If it can be done as is here said, this matter will be settled, and the Siamese will not send their Army. But they settle and instruct the Chief of Perak, and give him a title and great presents, in the same manner as all the other Countries subject to Siam.

But with regard to the other Malayan States which are not under the orders of Siam, if they know to respect, do not any thing to interfere with Siam, and carry on trade with sincerity and without offence, Siam will not be willing, nor desire to do any thing against those States. Siam is a great Country and desires to be the place of shelter for all small States. Her boundaries are very extensive, her wealth is great and ample, and she does not not covet, nor think of taking any territory belonging to others. When any Country presumes to interfere with Siam, and insult or injure it, the affair becomes important, and the Siamese are not able to be patient and to restrain their passion, but think it necessary to correct and destroy, and not let other Countries see and imitate the example. In the same manner as has happened between the English and those Burmese. Formerly, they were good friends, and traded and lived well together. Those Burmese were false and perfidious, and went and transgressed against the English. The English became angry and could not be patient, and then raised an Army to go and conquer the territories of those Burmese, being unable for this cause to restrain their passion. What Captain Burney says, if the Siamese go and attack or molest the Malayan States the friendship between the English and Siamese will be interrupted, this appears not correct. The Siamese do not offend, nor interfere with, the English.

As to what is said respecting the Governor of

Queda, the Siamese have governed, aggrandized, assisted and protected the territory of Queda for a long period, and through many generations of Governors of Queda, until the time of this Governor, Tuanku Pangeran. Siam supported, gave him a title, and established him as Governor of Queda, believing that he would long take care of the Country, Customs and People. The Governor of Queda cast them aside, and thought of connecting himself with those Burmese enemies, to whom he sent a man with Letters. The Siamese knowing all this, desired the Governor of Queda to come to Siam, in order that he might receive advice and become good. The Governor of Queda made deceitful excuses not to come, and then it became certain that the Governor of Queda was thinking of doing something against Siam. If he had been allowed to remain, he would have become an enemy of Siam. Then Chow Pya Ligor was ordered to raise an Army and go down and seize and bring the person of the Governor of Queda, that he might be punished according to his crimes. The Governor deserted his Country, and ran and placed himself in Penang. Chow Pya Ligor took charge of Queda and collected the inhabitants that had run away and been dispersed, and settled them peaceable. Where the inhabitants meditated treason against Siam, and collected to return and attack Queda, the Chow Pya of Ligor put them down, and quieted and composed them. The person of the Governor of Quedah the Siamese thought of going to demand and to bring here, for the purpose of being punished. But they saw that the English were friends with the Siamese. The Governor of Queda had gone and taken shelter with the English. When the Siamese would go and asked (*sic*) for him, they would receive shame from the English. Hence they remained silent. But it is now five years since the Governor of Queda has run away, and not returned to solicit pardon from Siam. The Governor of Queda sent a man with

Letters to Ava, and Ava sent Letters to the Governor of Queda at Penang, concerting together that those Burmese should come and fight with the Siamese and take Queda. The Governor of Queda proposed mischief against Siam many times, but Siam remained quiet and received dishonor in the eyes of many nations. This wickedness and these crimes of the Governor of Queda, the great men of Queda fully know, and all of them have sent an address, stating that the Governor of Queda is not a correct and proper person; that he has transgressed against the ancient customs and laws of the Country, and that therefore they do not wish him to return and govern Queda in future. The English and the Siamese are become very intimate friends. The English favor this criminal, the Governor of Queda, which is not proper. What advantage or benefit can the Governor of Queda confer on the English? But if the English cherish friendship with the Siamese, and let it improve without loss, it appears there will be great advantage and benefit, greater a hundred fold than from the Governor of Queda. A new Governor of Queda will be appointed and that Country will be settled and re-established. The English will be able to be friends and to trade and to have intercourse with it as formerly. Orders will be given to the new Governor of Queda, in view that the English may be able to hold friendly intercourse and trade with Queda in the same manner as formerly, and that no misunderstanding may take place. What Captain Burney requests that the Governor of Queda may be permitted to return to his Country as before, this matter we beg may be dropped, and do not let the Captain be uneasy about it.

What is said on the subject of Trade, that the Officers who levy Port Charges, Export and Import Duties upon Asiatic, English and Chinese Vessels and Traders do not levy them equally; that if Vessels belonging to the English come and trade, they desire to pay at once whatever is the charge for the Governor

of Paknam, for Imports and Exports and on every other account, and desire the Amount may be fixed; so that they may pay for each fathom 1,500 Ticals. All that the Captain says on this subject, wishing that the trade between the English and Siamese may increase, is good. The Officers levy the Port Charges and observe the daily sales and purchases of Merchants according to the ancient Customs and Regulations of the country. The whole business of superintending Trade belongs to Chow Pya Prah Klang, who sees that no breach of the Regulations is committed. What is said about the Portuguese paying a lower Import Duty than the English, this is because the Governor of Goa sent a respectful and gentle Letter of friendship, stating that many of the Portuguese dwell in Siam, who are employed as Gunners and have fought with the Siamese against their enemies, and have done good. For this reason the Officers of the Customs were ordered to levy at each time six per Cent upon the Portuguese. Now, what Captain Burney desires that all the Duties upon Vessels belonging to the English may be added into one Amount, and levied at once, and not subdivided, this is easy and better. And as to the eight propositions which are made on the subject of trade, there is great difference between the English and Siamese Customs and Regulations. A few where proper may be remitted on account of the friendship which is desired to be established. What ought to be the charge for each fathom of breadth of a Vessel, let it be discussed and settled properly in concert with the Chow Pya Prah Klang and all his Officers, and whatever may be mutually agreed, let the Chow Pya Prah Klang report to us.

What the Captain desires that the English Merchant may go and sell and buy by himself, at his own pleasure, without the observation or knowledge of the proper Officers. There are many classes and descriptions of people in Bangkok. There are some good and

some poor men. The Commander of a Vessel will not know who are good and who are bad people. If he sells to or buys from a bad man, who may desire to cheat him, or to dispute or wrangle, or to run away, as some will. The Commander of the Vessel will come and complain and require redress, or desire to seize the man, which he will not be able to do, because the Country is too great and extensive for him to follow the man. If the man is brought, he may not acknowledge, and may desire to dispute as to the quantity of the Goods. The Officers will have the utmost difficulty to settle the matter, and to discover the truth, because no one saw or knew of the transaction. The Commander of the Vessel will be dissatisfied, stating that the Officers are unjust and do not give him redress. The affair will rest in doubt, and the Commander of Vessel will remain unsettled. In the same manner as in the time of Captain Macdonald and *Carlot* * who disputed. Captain Macdonald said Carlot cheated, and Carlot said Captain Macdonald cheated. It was very difficult to investigate and discover where the fault really lay, because the Officers did not know and see the transaction. If Captain Burney wishes to know the whole of the affair respecting Captain Macdonald and Carlot, let him enquire of the Chow Pya Prah Klang. As to what the Commander of a Vessel desires to sell and buy without letting the proper Officers know, this it appears, will not be possible. If the Commander of a Vessel desires to go to any person from whom to receive assistance in selling and buying, let him give notice to Chow Pya Prah Klang, and he will be able to settle the business according to the wishes of the Commander of the Vessel. What is said respecting the Commanders of English Vessels coming to trade, and desiring to land at Paknam the Powder and shot, and that the Guns are very troublesome, requesting that they may remain in the Ship, this matter respecting Guns and warlike Stores is an ancient Custom of the

American Consul.

Kingdom, and it is a very important Affair. To desire to alter or to deviate from such a Custom is impossible. Because Siam is a great Country, it becomes necessary to take care of all such Customs, and to follow the rules which have come down from ancient times, and further, this is an affair affecting the Kingdom, and has no connection with Trade. The English are the friends of the Siamese and come to trade with sincerity. Let the Commanders of the Vessels then land and deposit the whole of their Guns, Powder and Shot according to custom, and show proper respect and then let the Vessels come up to Bangkok. If this custom is not observed, a Vessel cannot be allowed to come up to Bangkok. This is positive. His Majesty issued all these orders, and Pya Phi-Phut Kosa then recorded the whole for the information of Captain Burney on Sunday the 21st day of the Third month in the year Fowl.

Translated from the original with some assistance from a version in the Malayan Language.

Signed) H. BURNEY Captain

Envoy to the Court of Siam.

Seal of
Pya Phi-phut
Kosa.

No. 23.

ADDITIONAL SUGGESTIONS respecting Siamese Negotiations submitted to the British Commissioners in Ava and Pegu.

Bangkok, 1st March 1826.

1. The Suggestions transmitted to the Commissioners on the 31st January were written under an impression that the King of Ava would have ratified the Treaty of Peace concluded at Patanago. The renewal of hostilities leads me to submit the following additional Suggestions, together with Copies of certain Papers enumerated in the Margin showing the progress of my negotiations with the Court of Bangkok.

2. All my enquiries have failed in tracing any descendant of the Royal Family of Pegu. The numerous executions of Tallien Families of rank by Alompra in 1757, by Shembuan (who destroyed the last King of Pegu) in 1775, and by Minderagee in 1782, would show a desire on the part of the Burmese Monarchs of extirpating the Pegu Royal Race. If any branch exist, it must be at the Capital of Ava. Chow Pya Maha Ayothia Bon-na-rong has not a drop of Royal blood in his veins. He is well known here to be the son of a respectable Land-Holder in Pegu, who emigrated about 40 years ago from Martaban and accepting Military Service under the Siamese Government distinguished himself and his family. From all that I can learn, I strongly suspect that Maha Ayothia in his correspondence with our Officers in Ava has been giving an erroneous impression of his power and influence in Siam, and of the objects for which his Force was sent to the frontiers of Ava. The truth is, he has no power to act or move but as he may be authorized by the Court of Siam, to which he is obliged to refer on the most trifling points, and he and all his Detachments though styling themselves "the Army of Doorawuddee," are Siamese subjects instructed and anxious more to

effect the aggrandizement of Siam, that to promote the restoration of their own independence, or the re-establishment of their Ancient Kingdom. Indeed, such is the jealousy entertained by this Court with respect to its Chiefs, that were it but to hear for a moment that the British Government contemplated placing Maha Ayothia on the Throne of Pegu, that Chief, I am assured, would be immediately recalled and would most probably lose his head. There are some Pegu inhabitants of Siam, particularly Pya Phi-phut the Deputy Prah Klang and his elder Brother Pya Rajpakdee the King's Treasurer, claiming descent from Pegu families of greater Rank and antiquity than what Maha Ayothia can boast, but none of them have any real power or influence in Siam, nor have they the capacity or spirit to form an opinion contrary to what they know their Siamese Masters entertain.

3. When the intelligence of the Peace between the British and Burmese Governments first arrived at Bangkok, the Court was much dissatisfied, fearing particularly that the English might hereafter form a connexion with the Burmese inimical to the safety of Siam; but the subsequent intelligence of the Clause which had been inserted in our Treaty in favor of Siam removed this apprehension and gave me every reason to believe, that the Court would have acquiesced in the whole of the propositions which I had tendered, without requiring from us any other return than an assurance of our friendship and peaceable intentions.

4. If therefore circumstances enable us to conclude a Treaty of Peace with Ava without reducing her power below that of Siam, I am now satisfied that by such a course we shall be able to secure much greater advantages from Siam than by offering her any territory or giving her in lieu of the Burmese any more friendly or peaceable neighbours. In such

case I would beg to submit with all diffidence that the whole of the country between Rangoon and Mergui should be severed from the Burmese Empire, and in this territory such Pegu inhabitants as desire or are able to retire from the Siamese or Burmese Dominions might be settled under a purely British Government. Such a tract of territory could be fortified and maintained by us at little cost or inconvenience, and would be more valuable and perhaps more useful than the three southern provinces of Arracan. The reports of the Officers at Martaban must enable Government to judge of the superior resources and commercial capacities of that province and all my enquiries lead me to believe that the loss of that possession will cripple the power of Ava more than the loss of the whole of Arracan.

5. On the subject of the restoration of the old Pegu Kingdom, I fear some of my opinions may militate against those of my Superiors. The principal men of that nation by long residence and service, and by marriage and other connexions in either Ava or Siam are either Burmese or Siamese subjects in mind as well as body. A few of the second Classes only may perhaps possess some sentiment of patriotism or desire of independence, virtues which the Peguers could not display against the power of Siam and Ava unless they are placed under the absolute pupillage of the British Government. In Siam Mr. Crawford was told that there are 43,000 Peguers. These people compose some of the most useful Subjects and Artizans in Siam, and many of them are employed by the Court in situations of great trust and confidence. No inducement would prevail on the Siamese to deprive themselves of the services of so useful a race, or permit it to quit the Country. From the disinclination shown by them to lose 5 or 600 poor Burmese prisoners we may judge with what feelings they would listen to a proposition for taking away 20 or 30,000 Peguers.

6. Admitting that a sufficient portion of the Pegu inhabitants can be collected to enable the British Government to re-establish that Nation, it is well known that the old Peguers quarrelled just as much with the Siamese as the Burmese have done; that they also once captured the Capital of Siam; and that they in fact first brought the people of Ava down to fight with Siam, by which means they first lost their independence. The old Pegu Kingdom seems at one time to have extended to Ligor and Tenasserim, which places I learn were reconquered by the Siamese in the middle of the 17th Century, assisted by some Portuguese, who when driven out of Ceylon by the Dutch had retired to Siam, and some of whom also had just before quarrelled with the King of Pegu at Martaban. The proper limits of the Pegu Kingdom seem to have been in the 14th Degree of Latitude or as far as Tavoy. Captain Hamilton in the beginning of the 18th Century says, they extended as far as "Maravi" which Symes and other Authors consider Mergui, but that Hamilton did not mean that town is evident from his having but a few pages after given a full description of it under the name of "Merjee." As he describes Merjee as "the next place on the Continent "to the Southward of Martaban," and does not mention Tavoy at all, I conceive his "Maravi" must have been a corruption of the Burmese Mion Tave or Dave, Town of Tavoy, which certainly was in existence long before Hamilton visited India. The Peguers are divided by the Siamese into two Parties, as they are attached or subject to themselves or to the Burmese, and these are respectively styled "Mon Thai" and "Mon Phoma."

7. Siam would probably have no objection to the restoration of the Pegu Kingdom if rendered entirely dependent on, or annexed to her, but such an arrangement would serve only to increase the pride and arrogance of the Siamese and the chances of a

collision between us. It is possible that the glittering temptation of a Throne may be seducing Maha Ayothia from his allegiance to Siam. And considering that his father long held employ under this Government, and that he himself has served it from infancy in situations of Command, his secession, we may presume, would be followed by that of Hundreds of the Pegu Emigrants in Siam. But this event I fear would only serve to renew all the old quarrels between the Siamese and Peguers, and to draw the British Government into a labyrinth of Indo-Chinese Politics.

8. If therefore the termination of the war with Ava by a Treaty of Peace appear impolitic or impracticable, in that case I humbly conceive, it will be much better for the British Government to retain the whole Kingdom of Pegu in its own hands than to call Chow Pya Maha Ayothia to the Throne. The Siamese, who must know the Burmese better than we do, ridicule the notion of concluding any Treaty with so faithless and treacherous a race, and their plan of warfare in our circumstances would be, to destroy Umerapoora and every place above Prome and Toongho, and to fall back on those Towns laying waste the the whole Country between them and the Capital of Ava.

9. But if the objections against so great an extension of territory appear paramount, in that case the elevation of Maha Ayothia * to the Throne of Pegu, could the Siamese Government be persuaded to consent to the measure, might be the best course to adopt in our choice of difficulties. He is not only a man of approved talents and character, capable of undertaking the charge of a new Kingdom, but he would be less likely hereafter to permit the re-introduction of Burmese influence in Pegu than any Tallien Chief who may serve the Government of Ava,

NOTE.
* This Officer is only a Pya. He was authorized to use the Title of Chow Pya when detached to the frontiers as a local or official rank only.

or may have been brought up under it. Two of Maha Ayothia's brothers are said to have been included in the cruel execution that signalized the late King of Siam's accession to the Throne, of every Chief of merit or influence near it. He himself escaped by being absent from the Capital at the time, and his fidelity is now ensured in the usual Siamese manner by his wife and children being left at Bangkok in the power of the Court. I am informed that Maha Ayothia not only possesses superior capacity and energy, but that he is decidedly the best Military Officer in the Service of Siam and the Commander who has been most often sent against and who is most dreaded by the Burmese. The number of Tales that he and his followers send to Bangkok of disasters occurring to the British Army in Ava is incredible. Not a week passes without such intelligence, and however absurd, the Court credit it in preference to the official information received and communicated by me. I suspect that Maha Ayothia's object in sending such accounts is to alarm the Court into permitting him to join the English Army. I may mention a few of these Tales. Once the Burmese had succeeded in blowing up the whole English Army with Gunpowder. Another time in drowning it by flooding the Country. Another time in destroying it by poisoning all the Wells and Streams in its neighbourhood. Three several times Accounts have been brought of the Burmese drawing the English into an ambuscade upon pretence of meeting them to treat for Peace and completely destroying them. Another time during the negotiations for a peace the King of Ava had, according to custom, sent down to each person of the English Army a Lady who had risen at night and slain her companion. The last Tale, which has been brought here is, that the Burmese have succeeded in cutting off the road in rear of Sir Archibald Campbell and his Army, who can neither advance nor retreat. I would not mention

these Tales were I not assured that the King and all the Court of Siam implicitly credit such nonsense.

10. I have used without success every possible exertion to prevail on the Court of Siam to depute some Officers of Rank and character to confer with our Officers at Martaban and Rangoon or with the British Commissioners in Pegu and Ava. It will be seen by one of the accompanying Enclosures (No. 15), that to induce the Court to adopt this measure, I even ventured to hold out to it a prospect of obtaining possession of Martaban or some other territory from the British Commissioners. Since the renewal of hostilities I am always answered that there is no use of considering what shall be the future condition of Pegu until the British Government have fully subdued the Burmese and secured their conquests in Pegu. The capture of Umerapoora which is here still considered impossible, may lead the Court to attend to our wishes and to depute some of its Officers to Martaban and Pegu. Next to the capture of that Capital our forcing the Government of Ava to pay a large sum of money will be the only circumstance likely to convince the Siamese and Cochin Chinese Nations of the superiority of our Arms over those of Ava.

11. In my instructions from the Supreme Government I was distinctly informed that His Lordship in Council had long ceased to consider the junction of a Siamese Army with our Troops to be in any way important or desirable, and I was directed to abstain from making any propositions to the Court of Siam for such aid; but to apply for a supply of Draft and Carriage Cattle, if practicable and required, and to inform the Siamese Ministers that it was still open for the Siamese to attack any part of the Burmese Dominions from their North West frontier provided it was not occupied by our Troops nor under British protection. On my first arrival at Bangkok

I confined myself to these instructions, from which I was subsequently induced to deviate upon learning that Sir Archibald Campbell had calculated upon the co-operation of Maha Ayothia's Force with the Pegu Division of the British Army. Perhaps it is fortunate that I failed, and unless directed by the Commissioners, I shall not repeat my application to the Siamese Court to advance Maha Ayothia's Force, because I am satisfied that the Siamese have no real intention of co-operating in the war, nor, if they had, could their Force move this Season in time to be of any use.

12. The Court of Siam continues full of mistrust and alarm respecting the intentions of the British Government against this Kingdom, and to such a state of excitement have the daily fabrications of Malay and Chinese kept this Court during the last five or six Months, that I am only surprized it has not been led on to attack our conquests on the Coast of Tenasserim, of the reduced strength of the Garrisons in which quarter the Siamese are fully aware. Time and patience only will be able to undeceive the Siamese, but until they are undeceived to expect any co-operation from them towards our hostilities against Ava, or views in favor of Pegu will be wholly useless.

(Signed) H. BURNEY Captain
Envoy to the Court of Siam.

No. 24.

Memorial from Captain Burney, Envoy from the Right Honorable the Governor General of British India to the Ministers of the King of Siam.

Bangkok 28th March 1826.

Captain Burney having given the most deliberate attention to the Reply which the Ministers of Siam have returned to his Letter of propositions, is obliged to declare with much concern that this Reply is very unsatisfactory. If Captain Burney has said or done any thing that has given offence to the Ministers of Siam, he begs they will have the goodness to remember that he is unacquainted with all their customs. He must assure the Ministers that he has never had in his heart any other desire than that of establishing a true and firm friendship between the English and Siamese Nations.

Captain Burney believing that the Ministers of Siam could not have thoroughly understood the contents of his former Letter, has been induced to draw up the accompanying Treaty of Friendship and Commerce between the Siamese and English Nations. This Treaty will prove to the Ministers, that the English do not wish or intend to take possession of the Malayan Countries, and that they only desire to persuade the Siamese to join them in the bonds of Peace and friendship

There are some inaccuracies in the Ministers' Reply to Captain Burney, and it is not the Custom of the English to boast of the wealth and power of their Country.

With respect to Tringano and Calantan Captain Burney again assures the Ministers of Siam that the English have no desire of interfering with the Government of those Countries if the Siamese will refrain from invading or molesting those States. But with respect to

Perak and Salengore, Captain Burney must communicate the following facts, of which the Ministers do not appear to be aware. The Dutch soon after they first came to Malacca, 180 years ago, had a fort at Perak with which State they were always connected. When the Rajah of Quedah reported 10 years ago to the English that he had been ordered by the King of Siam to conquer Perak, and that if he did not obey the order, he would be punished by the King of Siam, the English commiserated the situation of the King of Queda and confined themselves to letting him know that Perak belonged to the Dutch and that the Dutch whenever they recovered their former power at Malacca, would not allow the Siamese to meddle with Perak. Twelve Months ago the Dutch ceded Malacca and all its Dependencies to the English, and the Rajas of Perak and Salengore then became connected with the English. Hence the English now cannot allow the King of Siam to give any orders or title to the Raja of Perak, or permit the Siamese to meddle with that Country or with Salengore in any manner. The King of Siam declares that the wealth and possessions of the Siamese are ample and that they do not covet any territory belonging to other States. Yet Perak, which has been a dependency of Malacca for upwards of 150 Years, the Siamese desire to make tributary to them. If any Malayan State subject to the English offend Siam, the Ministers had better complain of the circumstance to the British Government and not seek redress in the unfriendly manner which they mention to Captain Burney.

With respect to Queda, Captain Burney has heard that some Malays have petitioned the King of Siam not to allow their lawful King to return, and have ventured to state, that only 1 or 200 of the inhabitants of Queda have fled out of the Country. That some few people, who have connected themselves with the Rajah of Ligor, may be afraid to see the King of

Queda return is very true, but Captain Burney can assure those people not to be afraid, as the English, before they would allow the King of Queda to return, would oblige him to engage that he should punish no one for his conduct under the Siamese. What will the Ministers of Siam say when they are solemnly assured by Captain Burney that at least 20,000 of the inhabitants of Queda have fled from that Country since the Siamese entered it? It never can be pleasing to a great and magnanimous Prince like the King of Siam. to hear that 20,000 Men, Women and Children have been driven out of a Country, and that they are now afraid to return to it. The British Government gave protection and an asylum to the King of Queda at Penang, because His Highness was an old friend and ally. The Rajah of Ligor applied two or three times for the person of the King of Queda, but the Government of Penang told him that it was not the Custom of the English to desert their friends in adversity.

Captain Burney must beg that the Ministers will submit to the King of Siam that the English request His Majesty to forgive the King of Queda and to restore him to his Throne, because they are certain that unless the King of Queda and his fugitive subjects are allowed to return to their Country the English and Siamese cannot continue friends. In the same manner as Malays and other evil disposed persons come to Bangkok with stories that the English are preparing to attack Siam, they go to Prince of Wales Island and other English Settlements with false tales against the Siamese and their great Officers. The Malay inhabitants of Queda, who were driven out of that Country having now no home or means of subsistence, employ themselves in fabricating such stories and in piracy and other crimes. The English beg the King of Siam will let these people return to their Country, which they will never do

unless their King is allowed to return with them. Captain Burney repeats, the English do not wish or intend to take possession of Queda. They only desire that the people of that Country may be able to return to their former homes, and to their former honest and useful occupations.

The King of Queda having quarrelled with the Raja of Ligor was afraid to go to his Highness when summoned by him. The King of Queda did not open a correspondence with the Burmese until he was driven out of his Country, and his Children, Sisters and principal friends were carried away as Prisoners. The English refused to assist the King of Queda to attack the Siamese at Queda, because the English believed that they could ask the King of Siam to restore the King of Queda by the road of friendship. Let the King of Siam recollect what assistance the King of Queda afforded to His Majesty in recovering Junkceylon from the Burmese and let His Majesty then act as a great King by forgiving the King of Queda and permitting the English and Siamese to live in peace and friendship for a hundred years. The Raja of Ligor himself, while last at Queda, saw the necessity of yielding to the representations of the English respecting the King of Queda, and hence concluded the Treaty with Captain Burney engaging to ask the King of Siam to forgive and restore the King of Queda.

On the subject of Trade Captain Burney has drawn up the accompanying set of Rules and Duties for the consideration of the Court of Siam. If the Ministers approve of the same they can be annexed to the Treaty according to custom, and by that means all English Commanders and Traders will become well acquainted with the Regulations to which they must conform when they visit any Siamese Port. Although the custom of depriving a Vessel of her Guns is not

of very old standing, the French Ambassador who visited Siam about 140 years ago having found English and Dutch Ships with their Guns above Bangkok, still as the Court of Siam seems to entertain a particular feeling as to this point, Captain Burney will not press it, and this conduct on his part will he hopes prove to the Ministers that the English have not the smallest intention of coming to Siam to do mischief. Captain Burney begs the Ministers will bear in mind that the greatest grievance of which English Merchants and Commanders complain is, that they are not allowed to sell and buy whereever they please at Bangkok. If the King of Siam will only appoint a proper Officer to whom the English may apply for redress, and by whom they may be assisted to recover their Debts, the English Merchant and Commander must buy and sell at their own risk, and the King of Siam need not be responsible for the Debts of his people. The plan of reporting to the Chow Pya Prah Klang before an English Merchant can sell or buy any thing is attended with very great Loss of time and money. Captain Burney has given to the Prah Klang a Copy of the Letter in which the Commander of the American Vessel communicated his sentiments to Captain Burney respecting the present mode of regulating the business of Merchants and Traders at Bangkok. Let that Letter shew the Ministers how much loss and shame the Siamese suffer from the present system of conducting trade with the English and Americans.

Captain Burney had prepared this Letter several days ago, but deferred transmitting it to the Ministers until they found out the inaccuracy of the intelligence brought to them that the Burmese had destroyed the English Army. The English have now established themselves in extensive contact with the Siamese and they desire to live with the Siamese as friends

and good neighbours and not on the same terms as the Burmese did. A more extensive intercourse than formerly must now take place between the Siamese and English and if the Ministers of Siam desire this intercourse shall be so settled and conducted so as to prevent all chance of dispute between the two Nations, they will approve of the Treaty which Captain Burney now forwards to them in the name of the Right Honorable the Governor General of British India.

(Signed) H. BURNEY Captain.
Envoy to the Court of Siam.

No. 25.

Treaty of Friendship and Commerce between His Majesty the King of Siam and the British Government.

Article 1st. There shall be perpetual Peace, friendship and good understanding between the British and Siamese Nations.

Article 2d. The Troops and Subjects of neither the British nor Siamese Government shall invade or occupy any of the Malayan Peninsular States, or disturb the Peace and tranquillity thereof in any manner.

Article 3d. His Majesty the King of Siam, as a proof of his high regard for the British Nation, accepts its mediation in favour of the King of Queda, and engages now to restore His Highness to his Throne and Kingdom, to release and remand the whole of his family and subjects that are in captivity and to withdraw the Troops and Subjects of Siam from the Territory of Quedah, and further engages that the Troops and Subjects of Siam shall not again invade or occupy that Territory, nor disturb its peace and tranquillity in any manner.

Article 4th. The British Government engages that it shall not take possession of the Kingdom of Queda, nor disturb its peace and tranquillity in any manner, and stipulates on the part of the King of Queda, that His Highness shall forward a Sum of Four Thousand (4,000) Spanish Dollars annually, and the Gold and Silver Flowers triennially to His Majesty the King of Siam through the Chow Pya of Ligor.

Article 5th. The subjects of both the British and Siamese Governments shall have entire liberty of trade and friendly intercourse, whether by land or water, with every portion of the Malayan Peninsular States, and the British and Siamese Officers

and Governors residing near those States shall concurrently adopt measures for apprehending and punishing Pirates and Robbers, and for affording to the trade of their respective Nations with those Malayan States adequate facility and security.

Article 6th. The Ships, Junks and other Vessels belonging to any of the subjects of His Majesty the King of Siam shall be entitled at all times to the protection of His Britannic Majesty and the Honorable East India Company's Ships of War, and shall be admitted into all the Ports belonging to the British Government in India upon the footing of the most favored Nations.

Article 7th. All Ships and other Vessels under the British Flag, the property whether of European or Asiatic Subjects of the British Government, shall be admitted into the Port of Bangkok and into every other Port belonging to the Siamese Government, subject to the Regulations and Rates of Duty, enumerated in the Schedule annexed to this Treaty.

Article 8th. Every facility and freedom shall be afforded to the Commerce between the British Possessions of Prince of Wales Island, Malacca and Singapore, and all the adjacent Siamese States of Ligor, Singora, Murdelong, Patani, Junk Ceylon &ca. and the Merchants and Traders of both Nations shall be allowed to carry on trade and intercourse between all these Countries, whether by Sea, Overland, or by means of the Rivers, without the smallest obstruction.

Article 9th. Every facility and freedom shall be afforded to the Commerce between the British Possessions of Yè, Tavoy, Mergui, Tenasserim and such other places as the British Government may retain in Ava, and the contiguous Siamese Dominions, and His Majesty the King of Siam will depute Officers of rank to meet and confer with the British Officers

at Tavoy, Mergui and other places, for the purpose of fixing proper boundaries between the British and Siamese Possessions, and of making such friendly arrangements as may encourage and facilitate a Commercial intercourse.

Article 10th. The Traders and Merchants of both the British and Siamese Nations shall have liberty to rent Houses and Godowns, and to settle and carry on their Affairs in the Territories of both Nations in full security and confidence, and the Officers and Governors of both States are to consider it their duty to assist and protect the Vessels and Goods of such Traders and Merchants.

Article 11th. British and Siamese Subjects shall be amenable to the Laws and Jurisdiction of the Country in which they may be residing for any transgressions committed against them; and when any British or Siamese Subject has any suit for debt or other matter, he shall submit his complaint to the Magistrate, or other Officer of the Country. who will cause the Defendant to appear, investigate the complaint, and upon finding it just, settle or redress it.

Article 12th. Whenever any British or Siamese Subject in the Siamese or British Territories, wishes to leave them, he shall be allowed to do so with his property and suffer no obstruction.

Article 13th. His Majesty the King of Siam shall not permit any European Subject of the British Government to reside in any part of the Siamese Dominions, without the previous sanction of the Right Honorable the Governor General.

Article 14th. Should ever any Ship, Junk or other Vessel belonging to a Subject of the King of Siam be in a damaged state in any of the Ports belonging to the British Government, or any Vessel belonging to a British Subject be in that condition

in any of the Ports belonging to the King of Siam, the Governors and Chiefs of the Ports of the respective Nations are to consider it their duty to give every aid to refit and repair Vessels so situated, and if it happens that any of the Vessels of either Nation are wrecked in or near the Ports or Shores of either Country, on such occasions whatever property can be recovered shall be saved and restored to the Owners, who will reward those who recovered it according to what may be just and proper.

Article 15th. That Peace, Friendship and Good understanding may endure between His Majesty the King of Siam and the British Government as long as the Sun and Moon, this Treaty, containing of 15 Articles, has been drawn out in Duplicate, in the English and Siamese Languages, regularly Sealed and delivered to their Excellencies the six Ministers of Siam, by Captain Henry Burney the British Envoy to the Court of Siam, on this 28th day of March in the year 1826, corresponding with the 6th day of the Decreasing Moon in the 4th Month of the Siamese year of Fowl 1187.

If the Ministers of His Majesty the King of Siam approve of this Treaty, they will put the Royal Seal to both Copies and give them in charge to an Envoy from Siam, who may accompany Captain Burney and submit them to the Right Honorable the Governor General. Should His Lordship ratify this Treaty he will retain one Copy and remand the Siamese Envoy with the other duly Sealed. The Siamese Envoy on his return from Bengal shall touch at Prince of Wales Island and superintend the restoration of the King of Queda.

(Signed) H. BURNEY Captain
Envoy to the Court of Siam.

Schedule of Regulations to be observed, and of Port and Anchorage Charges and Import and Export Duties to be paid, by Merchants, Ships and other Vessels under British Colours, the property whether of European or Asiatic Subjects of the British Government at Bangkok and other Ports in the Kingdom of Siam, as settled by the 6th Article of the Treaty between the King of Siam and the British Government.

1st. Upon arrival of an English Merchant Ship, or other Vessel off the Bar, the Commander of the Vessel shall forward to the Chief at the Mouth of the River or Harbour, an Invoice of his Cargo, List of his Crew and Passengers, and a return of the Guns, Powder, and Shot on board his Vessel.

2d. The Chief at the Mouth of the River or Harbour shall send out a Pilot and Interpreter to bring in the Vessel, which must anchor off the Chokey or Custom House pointed out by the Interpreter.

3d. The Officers at the Mouth of the River or Harbour shall go on board the Vessel, examine her and cause her Guns, Powder and Shot to be landed for deposit, before she is allowed to proceed.

4th. Upon the arrival of the Vessel off the Town the Siamese Officers shall go and examine her and measure her breadth.

5th. A charge of 1500 Ticals per every Siamese Fathom, that the Vessel may measure in breadth, will then be made in lieu of Port and Anchorage Charges, Import and Export Duties, Presents to the King and Officers, and all other Charges, and if a Vessel after paying this charge returns to trade a Second, Third and Fourth time in the same year, she shall be required to pay only 1,000 Ticals per fathom at such Second, Third and Fourth time.

6th. Upon payment of the Charge fixed above the Commander of the Vessel and all Merchants on board shall have full liberty to buy and sell wherever and whatsoever they please, and if Clerks or weighmen are employed to superintend the weighing or measuring of any Articles, they shall be paid at a fixed Rate per *Pecul* or *Coyan*. If a Vessel also cannot receive the whole of her Cargo off the Town, the Commander shall be allowed to hire Junks or Boats to convey to her outside of the Bar, the residue of her Cargo, without any additional duty.

7th. Upon a Vessel being ready to depart, her Commander shall wait on Chow Pya Prah Klang, and apply for a Port Clearance without obtaining which the Vessel shall not attempt to depart.

8th. The Vessel on her passage down must anchor off the Chokey or Custom House at the Mouth of the River or Harbour, and the Officers there shall again go and examine her, before her Guns, Powder and Shot are restored, or she is allowed to take her departure.

9th. If the Commander of a Vessel or any Merchant whether European or Asiatic subjects of the British Government, infringe any of these Regulations, he shall be punished in such manner as the established Laws of Siam direct.

10th. At every other Port in the Kingdom of Siam, English Merchants and Vessels under English Colours, whether the property of European or Asiatic Subjects of the British Government, shall conform to the Rules and Regulations here established, but the Charges at such places shall be fixed according to a reduced scale and notified to the British Government.

11th. Ships and other Vessels under English colours. the property whether of European or Asiatic Subjects of the British Government. having once paid the high Rate of Duty established at Bangkok, shall be allowed to visit any other Port in the Kingdom of Siam, for the purpose of completing their Cargo. without any additional Duty.

(Signed) H. BURNEY Captain
Envoy to the Court of Siam.

No. 26.

Bangkok, 31st March 1826.

To

George Swinton Esquire,
Secretary to Government
in the Secret Department.

Sir,

By the Mission Brig Guardian I had the honor to forward to you a Report of the progress of my negotiations with the Court of Siam down to the 15th of February, together with Copies of some parts of my Correspondence with the Siamese Ministers. I have now the honor to transmit to you, via Martaban, a Duplicate of those Papers, as well as certain additional Documents enumerated in the Margin. *

* Continuation of the Journal of my Mission from the 20th February to the 31st March with Nos. 22, 23, 24 and 25 of the Appendix to the same. Nos. 9, 10, 14, 15 and 18 also of the Appendix.

A perusal of these additional Documents will show the Right Honorable the Governor General in Council the inauspicious situation in which the treachery of a Serang, who had deserted from the Mission Brig, has placed my negotiations with this timid and suspicious people. These Documents will also enable His Lordship in Council to form some conclusive judgement, respecting the Policy of my persisting in endeavouring to effect the restoration of the King of Queda.

I am bound to submit my opinion for the consideration of His Lordship in Council, that by perseverance, and in fact intimidation, I may ultimately succeed in rescuing Queda from Siamese domination; but I shall leave this Court much dissatisfied with the British Government and with me, and the engagement, into which I may prevail upon it to enter, will be by no means so cordial, or encouraging to our Merchants, as one in which Queda is not wrested from Siam. The arguments which the Siamese Ministers have adduced in their reply to me, No. 22, against the King of Queda, possess, in my humble judgement, some truth and force.

The Treaty of Friendship and Commerce, which I have submitted to the Ministers, is intended more as an experiment and to pacify the alarms of the Court; but if the Right Honorable the Governor General in Council approve of the terms of that Instrument, I conceive any chance of securing to it the acquiescence of the Siamese Ministers would be infinitely augmented, were I furnished with an Address from the Right Honorable the Governor General to His Majesty the King of Siam. The Siamese consider an Envoy in the light of a Letter Carrier or Messenger only, and an Address from the Right Honorable the Governor General assuring the King of Siam of the pacific and friendly views and intentions of the British Government, and of the falsehood of the numerous Tales brought here, and recommending the course which I have submitted, or any other plan for improving and cementing friendship between the two Nations, would naturally ensure a much greater credit and consideration, than any thing which I can submit, and would, I have every reason to believe, bring any (? my) negotiations to a satisfactory conclusion. The Steam Packet by conveying such an Address to Rangoon, could enable me to receive it very expeditiously viâ Martaban, with which place my communication is now well established.

I shall forward to you without a moments delay the reply which the Ministers may make to my last Memorial No. 24.

I have &c. &c.

(Signed) HENRY BURNEY Captain

Envoy to the Court of Siam.

No. 27.

Reply from the Ministers of the King of Siam to Captain Burney's Memorial No. 24.

Pya Phi Phut Kosa records the observations of their Excellencies the Ministers, and the orders of His Majesty the King of Siam, in order to communicate the same to Captain Burney. With respect to the representations which Captain Burney formerly transmitted on the subject of Tringano, Calantan, Perak and Queda, which representations Captain Burney has now repeated with many additions. The Chow Pya Prah Klang submitted the whole to His Majesty the King of Siam. who having fully understood the same was pleased to order. Captain Burney says, that he is continually thinking of establishing a permanent friendship between the Siamese and English, that the English do not wish to take possession of the Malayan Countries that are subject to Siam, which Captain Burney has often said—and that he is desirous of joining the English and Siamese in friendship. If what Captain Burney observes on this matter is true, we thank him much. The Letter that the Governor General of Bengal sent stated that the Governor of Europe and the English Nation desire to form a true and sincere friendship with Siam—that the English respect and love the Siamese—that the English and Siamese live on intimate terms of friendship—and that the English cannot think of doing any injury, or of seizing upon any thing belonging to Siam. The Letter from the Governor General of Bengal states this. On the part of the Siamese, they also love and respect the English, and are anxious to establish friendship with them. They credit the assurances of the Governor General of Bengal, who is the highest in rank among the English, and who was sent from Europe with a high title proclaimed in every foreign Country. The declara-

tions of the Governor General of Bengal are true, sincere and upright. Whatever he says is believed as truth, and Siam receives it with exceeding pleasure, and sees that the road of friendship between the English and Siamese Nations will be increased and prolonged to eternity. Captain Burney has now come to Siam as the Representative of the Governor General of Bengal. Let Captain Burney's heart desire that the friendship with Siam may be increased in the same manner as the Governor General's Letter points out, and this will be very good.

As to what Captain Burney says respecting the Governor of Queda, the answer that was formerly given to him was positive. But Captain Burney now again brings forward the Affairs of that Governor, stating that at the time the Burmese came and conquered Junkceylon the Governor of Queda gave much assistance. Captain Burney brings forward a good action in favor of the Governor of Queda, and desires that he may return and again become Governor of the Country. But with respect to the crime, which the Governor committed, and the treachery which he meditated against the Government of Siam, in joining with the public enemy, offences of great magnitude, Captain Burney says nothing. He does not see the Governor of Queda's crimes, but only his former good conduct. Queda is a Country subject to Siam, and in the event of a war, it must join and assist. If Siam orders Queda to do any thing it must do it, and cannot refuse, because it is under the authority of Siam. Such is the Law with respect to a subordinate State in every foreign Country, and among every people. For example, Penang is under the authority of Europe the Governor (*sic*) of Europe. The Governor of Europe orders or directs any matter, it must be done precisely. If the Governor of Penang does not like it, and goes and joins the Burmese, who are enemies, then we should see the Governor of

Europe very angry in like manner. All this fairly and impartially said. If any person does well, he is rewarded according to his merits. If any person commits a fault, he is punished according to his offence. Whether the Governor of Queda performed a good action, or conducted himself well on a former occasion, it is not proper to refer back to it. When the Governor of Queda meditated mischief against Siam, and withdrew his heart, he did away with his own good conduct. Captain Burney ought to look more towards a friendship with Siam, than towards the Governor of Queda, in conformity with the declarations of the Governor of Bengal. We beg he will drop the subject and not repeat his numerous representations in favor of the Governor of Queda. What we formerly said was positive.

With respect to the State of Perak, when the Pya of Ligor was ordered to go with a Force and conquer Salengore, the English prevented him, stating that Salengore was connected with the English; that they would send away Rajah Hussein who had placed himself at the Mouth of the Perak River, and would prevent Salengore from molesting Perak again. The Chow Pya of Ligor put a stop to his armament until he came and made a Report to His Majesty the King of Siam, who observed, that the English and the Siamese are friends, and that as the English engage not to permit Salengore to molest Perak; the arrangement is a good one; let Chow Pya Ligor remand the whole of his Forces. The Siamese understood that Salengore and Perak could not be joined together, and that the English and Siamese had finally settled this matter. Captain Burney now says that Perak has been connected with Malacca 180 years, and Malacca has become the possession of the English, and that Perak therefore is now connected with the English. This matter the Siamese did not know. If Perak was dependent on the Dutch, the Governor of Perak

ought before to have mentioned it, which he did not. Perak came and did homage to Siam, and Siam received its homage desiring to assist and protect it, and to continue to confer titles and presents. Perak has been subject to Siam during ten years, before there existed any connexion with the English. The European and Malayan Countries knew all, before Malacca became a possession of the English, and when Malacca belonged to the Dutch, they and the Siamese continued to trade together without any obstacle. The Dutch were formerly the Masters of Malacca, and they did not state that Perak belonged to them and was connected with Malacca. It is not a year since the Dutch transferred Malacca to the English. Captain Burney says that Perak became at the same time connected with the English. Siam proposed to give a Title to the Governor of Perak, because he came and did homage, but Captain Burney objects to this. Before Perak came to do homage in Siam, it deputed persons to the Chow Pya of Ligor, with respect and friendship, concerning Affairs of its Government, and sent both the Gold and Silver Flowers and other Presents to the Chow Pya of Ligor, who received the same and ordered the Officers to come to the feet of the King of Siam, and to tender the Presents to His Majesty. Chow Pya Ligor sent Siamese and Malays to Perak on the Affairs of its Government, and they regularly visited it. Perak now desires to prepare and depute Officers with the Gold and Silver Flowers and other Presents to the Chow Pya of Ligor according to Custom. Do the English intend to prevent the Governor of Perak from doing so?

With respect to Tringano and Calantan, Captain Burney says the English do not wish to take possession of them, if the Siamese engage not to attack or molest those States. If the English do not require those two Countries, we are happy. They have been subject to Siam for a long period of time. What

Captain Burney proposes, that Siam should engage not to attack or molest them, is not essential or necessary. There is no advantage whatever in what Captain Burney proposes. Those two Countries are known to belong to the Siamese. The answer that was formerly sent clearly shewed it. If the Malayan Countries belonging to Siam are not required the engagement which is required from the Siamese, that they shall not go and molest the Malayan Countries, belonging to them, is also not necessary. We shall be happy to engage that the Siamese shall not go and molest the Malayan Countries subject to the English, and that the English shall not molest the Malayan Countries subject to Siam in the manner of Captain Burney's Treaty. If any Malayan or other Country subject to the English commit any transgression against Siam, Siam shall first report the same to the English; Siam itself shall not punish, which the English say would not be according to the road of friendship. We approve very much of this observation, which Captain Burney makes, and which accords with established custom and propriety. If the English and the Siamese establish the road of friendship between them, the customs of the Country form the road of true and sincere friendship. When any matter occurs, if it is an important matter, it is necessary that it should be known to all the subordinate Countries. If any dispute occurs respecting boundaries or any other subject then it should be explained on both sides. The Country of the English is great, and so is the Country of the Siamese. They must join in preventing disputes in truth and sincerity, in the manner it is proper for great Countries. The Boundaries of the Siamese belong to the Siamese. The Boundaries of the English belong to the English. Neither side must transgress nor encroach. In all those Malayan Countries, which are subject to the English, the Siamese do not desire to seize any of them, do not

wish to transgress or encroach, and do not wish, under any pretence, to impose their authority or jurisdiction. The Countries belonging to the English, the English will regulate. They will appoint Governors and do everything according to the pleasure of the English. And with respect to the Malayan Countries subject to the Siamese, such as Tringano, Calantan and Queda and other Countries, Siam may regulate and issue its orders. If any Country is true to Siam, Siam will cherish it much and assist and enrich it. If any Country is not true, and withdraws its heart, and conducts itself as the Governor of Queda, Siam must correct and punish the Offender, according to its Offence and according to the Law and ancient Customs of the Country, and it will settle the Country and keep it in peace and quiet as formerly. The Countries subject to the English they will regulate according to the Customs of the English Countries, and the Siamese shall on no account go and molest or transgress. The Countries subject to the Siamese, they will regulate according to the Customs of the Siamese Countries, and the English shall on no account go and molest or transgress. If a Treaty can be framed with such mutual stipulations, then no subject could occur connected with quarrels in future. If the English desire to establish a sincere friendship with the Siamese, let them frame a Treaty containing what is above said. Let one Copy, with the Governor of Bengal's Seal, be placed in Bangkok, and one Copy with the King of Siam's Seal be taken and kept in Bengal. The English and Siamese should cherish truth, sincerity and friendship together with a pure heart incapable of evil. The English and Siamese may trade together with freedom. The Road of friendship may be encreased and may be extended to 100,000 or 10,000 years without diminution.

And if, with respect to Commerce, if it is requested by the road of friendship, mutually engaged

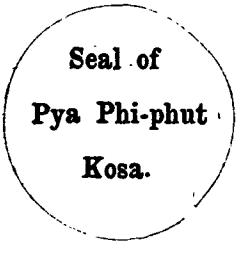
by such a Treaty, that the English Merchants may be allowed to buy and sell by themselves. His Majesty the King of Siam will grant them to buy and sell by themselves as they please. But English Merchants must follow all the Customs of the Siamese Country, and forget English Customs in a Country that is not English. If a Siamese go to trade in an English Country, he must follow the Customs of the English. With respect to an Officer being desired to be appointed to receive the complaints of the English Merchants, and to seize and examine Debtors. If the English Merchants go and sell or buy from a poor man, who has no money to pay, and who absconds with the property, the English say the fault will be with the English Merchant himself, who will have no cause for complaint that he is injured. If the Commanders of English Vessels agree to this, the King of Siam will grant it, and permit the Officers to make such an arrangement. Let the Commander of a Vessel take his complaint to Pya Chula and Radsithi, the Offiers of the Port on the right hand, who will explain it to the Chow Pya Prah Klang. The Chow Pya Prah Klang will appoint any of the Officers of the Port he may please to inquire into the business of the Commander of the Vessel, according to the Laws and Customs of the Kingdom. And with respect to the Treaty of friendship and Commerce which Captain Burney has prepared and forwarded; there is a difference between the Customs of the Siamese and those of the English. In Captain Burney's Treaty there is something right and something not right. What is right may be included in a Treaty; but what is not right, we cannot agree to include. We must put aside the Treaty which Captain Burney has transmitted, and let the Ministers in concert make a Draft of another Treaty and send it to Captain Burney. Let the Treaty be formed fairly and with impartiality and do not let friendship be destroyed. In what manner Custom will not allow a Treaty to be formed has been

shown on one side. That it is good on one side and bad on the other is not mentioned in the Treaty. Let the Customs of the Country on each side be followed. Come to Siam according to the Customs of Siam. Go to an English Country according to the Customs of the English. All this would be good. Let Captain Burney examine what is written in the Letter from the Governor of Bengal. If we agree together we shall afterwards be able to conclude a Treaty. This Letter was written and delivered on Wednesday on the 13th day of the 5th Moon in the year Dog 1188.

Translated from the Siamese.

Signed) H. BURNEY Captain

Envoy to the Court of Siam.



Factory Records, Straits Settlements, Vol. 138 pp. 157-166.

FORT CORNWALLIS the 19th June 1826.

READ the following Letter from the Envoy dated the 4th May in reply to the Dispatches transmitted by the Brig Guardian.

ENVOY AT SIAM.

Envoy at Siam 4th May 1826.

Bangkok, 4th May 1826.

To W. S. CRACROFT, Esquire
Secretary to Government
Prince of Wales Island.

Sir,

Since concluding my Dispatches to the Honorable the Governor, conveying a Copy of the Continuation of my Journal from the 15th February to the 1st instant; the return of the Mission Brig Guardian, this day, has put me in possession of your Dispatch of the 8th April, and I now hasten to acknowledge the same, in the hope that this acknowledgement may reach the American Vessel, Liverpool Packet, before she finally sails.

I beg you will assure the Honorable the Governor in Council, that unequivocal proof only, that perseverance on my part will defeat all the other objects of my Mission, shall induce me to cease from urging this Court "to restore the Malayan Government of "Kedah and remove the Siamese therefrom."

I have received Dispatches this morning from Captain Fenwick dated 4th Ultimo from Martaban, and I take this opportunity of submitting to Government my firm Conviction, that the Cession to the Siamese of any of our Conquests on the Coast of Tenasserim inhabited by Burmese, is to be deprecated by every consideration of humanity. No negotiations with this Court would succeed in ensuring good

treatment to such Burmese inhabitants, or in eventually saving them from unmitigated slavery. This conviction has been forced upon me here against opinions which I had previously entertained, and I conceive its accuracy may be proved by reference only to some of the facts recorded in my Journal.

I have &c., &c.

(Signed) H. BURNEY Captain
Envoy to the Court of Siam.

THE FOLLOWING MINUTE by the Honorable the Governor with its Enclosure is recorded.

Minute by the Governor, 18th June 1826.

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR.

Minute.

The object of the Mission to Siam was twofold. First, in order, though not in importance to effect the ratification of the Agreement made with the Rajah of Ligor, involving objects in which the Interests of the Government were considered to be deeply concerned. The second and the most important was to keep open a direct communication with the Court of Siam to explain to the Court the views and intentions of the British Government in the prosecution of the Burmese War, to communicate the course of its success and the nature and extent of co-operation required from the Siamese Government, to adjust at the same time by mutual explanation all differences which might arise between the Subordinate Officers of each respectively, in short to maintain and improve the amicable relations subsisting between the two States as well as to be prepared on the spot to adjust and settle the terms under which it might eventually be deemed advisable to transfer to Siam any portion of our conquests in the vicinity of that State. It is satisfactory to find that the exertions of Captain Burney have fully succeeded in one of the most important objects of this Mission, the maintenance of harmony between two States whose Armies were in contiguity to each other, and where subjects of difference and disputes were so likely to arise, the claims and pretensions of the Siamese to participate in our Conquests without the corresponding and reciprocal duty of aid and co-operation have been met with steadiness and at the same time with prudent conciliation, differences have become subjects of amicable negotiation which without the intervention of a prudent Agent might have become matter of hostile contention and lastly by the

unceasing labours of Captain Burney conducted under circumstances the most trying arising from the arrogant and vexatious character of those with whom he had to deal, the Government of Siam have by the return of the Captives been brought to afford substantial disavowal of the Acts of their Chief at Chimpohun in carrying away the inhabitants of Tenasserim. How far the further Service of Captain Burney may be required in adjusting terms of Cession must depend on the final determination of the Right Honorable the Governor General. It may be only necessary here to surmise that in the event of its being determined that no such Cession is to be made, as the War has now ceased, it is probable the further detention of Captain Burney will on that account be unnecessary. Captain Burney is in full and direct communication with the Supreme Government conducted through the Channel of the Public Authorities at Martaban and Rangoon. In respect therefore to his remaining at or quitting Bangkok as far as the measure depends on points in discussion on reference to the Right Honorable the Governor General, he must be guided by the Orders or at least known sentiments of that high Authority. It would be improper in us to give of ourselves any decided Instructions. Those orders will no doubt be communicated to this Government but as it is probable their views and sentiments will reach Captain Burney at an earlier period, Power and Instructions should be given him authorizing, as far as we are concerned, his immediate return.

In respect to the Secondary object of the Mission, the Ratification of the Treaty with Ligor and the Concession of the various points required. Captain Burney in his Letter of.....gave us hopes that all but one, the restoration of the King of Quedah are likely to be admitted.

But the Papers which accompany the Report just received lead me to fear that but little progress is made towards the accomplishment of any of the objects of the Mission connected with the Interests of the Malay Peninsula; nor can I indeed reconcile myself to the belief that the Rajah of Ligor will exert any influence in support of our views. He is now in possession of Quedah drawing all the advantage of that Possession, by further Conquest and Subjugation of which there can be little doubt he has long been the prime mover, he cannot fail to desire an accession of Influence and Power, and so far from looking to him for support in our views, I cannot but consider him as our great Enemy at the Court of Siam and to him probably is attributable the little success that has attended that portion of our objects, compared with those in which his Interests were not concerned. As it appears by the Enclosure No. 26 that a reference is made to the Supreme Government, by the Reply to which Captain B. must be guided, I shall defer recording a final opinion on the Mission, the result of which, though unpromising, is not certainly yet ascertained. I shall be well pleased to find my anticipations incorrect, but in the event of complete failure in the objects of the Mission, I propose that Captain B. take his leave with a Declaration annexed having for it's object the reservation of our right of future interference in the event of the Honorable Court of Directors deciding on that line of Policy.

(Signed) R. FULLERTON

15th June 1826.

Enclosure.

DECLARATION to be made by Captain Burney to the Siamese Government in the event of their rejecting the Treaty submitted to them.

First. That the British Government does not admit to the Siamese any right of exercising Control or Dominion, or of interfering in the Government of Perak or of the Malay States South of Quedah and Patani.

Second. That the British Government reserves to itself the right of protecting those States from all such interference and expelling all Siamese Troops that may have already or may hereafter be sent to enforce it by Siam at all times when it may be deemed proper so to do.

Third. That the Siamese Government will thence distinctly understand that in exerting such interference or continuing it if already begun they incur the risk of expulsion by the British Government.

Fourth. That the British Government, desirous of bringing the unsettled relations with Siam generally, but particularly with Ligor to some definite understanding and thus preventing future dispute had dispatched an Envoy to Siam. That the Siamese Government having refused to ratify the Treaty of Ligor or to enter into any agreement in terms consistent with the rights and Interests of the British Government, matters must naturally revert to the same unsettled state in which they stood before the Treaty of Ligor was made and the British Government will be prepared to resist by the direct application of their Power any encroachment on Independent States which they may deem prejudicial to the Interests of their Settlements on the Malay Peninsula.

THE SECRETARY reports, that Copy of the foregoing Minute was transmitted to the Envoy via Singapore, as the result of the deliberations of the

Board on the progress of his Negotiations, and that he was recommended to take leave from the Court making a final Declaration on the part of the British Government in the terms above recorded, unless his Instructions from the Supreme Government or an increased prospect of a favorable termination to the question regarding the Malayan States required him to remain for a longer period.

ADJOURNED

R. FULLERTON
W. A. CLUBLEY
R. IBBETSON

FORT CORNWALLIS
The 19th June 1826.

Factory Records, Straits Settlements, Vol. 138, pp. 6-71.

FORT CORNWALLIS, The 10th July 1826.

SECRET and POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

AT A COUNCIL PRESENT

THE HONORABLE ROBERT FULLERTON
Governor President

and

ROBERT IBBETSON Esquire.

WILLIAM ARMSTRONG CLUBLEY Esquire, Absent from Indisposition.

READ and APPROVED the PROCEEDINGS of the 29th ULTIMO.

ENVOY at SIAM 18th May 1826, with Enclosure.

ENVOY at SIAM.

Bangkok, 18th May 1826.

To

The Honorable R. Fullerton Esquire
Governor &c., &c., &c.,
P. W. Island.

Honorable Sir,

By the American ship, Liverpool Packet, I had the honor, on the 1st Instant, to transmit to you a Continuation of the Journal of my Mission to this Court from the 25th February to the date above mentioned. I now beg to forward to you, by the Ship Hunter and through the Resident at Singapore, a Duplicate of the former Papers, together with a Continuation of my Journal, with its Appendix, from the 1st May to the present date; and I am happy to report, that I see at present every prospect of the Mission being able to quit this Capital, for the purpose of returning, by the end of the ensuing Month.

I have &c., &c., &c.
(Signed) H. BURNEY Captain
Envoy to the Court of Siam.

ENCLOSURE.

163. The Prah Klang complied to-day with an application, that I had made to him some days ago, to be furnished with a detailed List of the Port and Anchorage Duties, which his Department had levied upon the Hunter. Upon receiving this absurd Document, No. 28, I called upon the Minister and obtained the explantions that are recorded in the Notes I have appended to it.

164. On the morning of the 3d May Captain Coffin left Bangkok, and on the same day we received accounts of the Brig Guardian off the Bar. In the afternoon of this day Phya Phi-phut called upon me accompanied by the Two Sepoys who had proceeded on the 27th December to Martaban, whence they now brought me Dispatches from Captain Fenwick, with Copies of the Treaty concluded with the Burmese. These Sepoys had been only 24 days from Martaban including a detention of 2 days at Menam Noi. I delivered Phya Phi-phut a Copy of the Treaty which Captain Fenwick had forwarded to me in the Burmese Language, and communicated to him intelligence respecting the new British Settlement of Amherst Town near Martaban, urging him to advise the Ministers to depute some Officers to visit it, in order to settle in concert with our Officers on the spot, boundaries and other questions embracing an enlarged friendly intercourse between that place and the Siamese Dominions. But I again noticed the distrust with which any proposition for settling boundaries is received by the Siamese, who seem most anxious that our proceedings on the Coast of Tenasserim should not reduce the breadth of waste and jungle, that has ever constituted the best protection to Siam in that direction, nor that we should form through them roads of easy Communication to this Capital. Owing to this distrust it will be long, I fear, before we shall be able to revive the profitable trade which formerly existed between the Coast of

Tenasserim and the Capital of Siam. Captain Fenwick in his private Letter to me, referred to the case of some Peguers who had been removed in the beginning of the war by Maha Yothia, from a part of the province of Martaban which is now ceded to us. I had before heard of these Men, and I knew that the Wang-na detained them in Paklaat, but as the subject is one which excited most unpleasant feelings in the minds of the Ministers, and as I know that the Peguers are treated with much more lenity than what the Burmese Prisoners of Mergui experienced, I was unwilling to notice them until the close of the war and until it was determined whether the territory whence they had been taken would be reserved by us. Phya Phi-phut denied stoutly all knowledge of the existence of such Men, and I therefore sent for the Siamese Writer and immediately dictated an Application on the subject to the Ministers, pointing out particularly, that these Peguers are now English Subjects, being the Natives of a portion of Country which had been ceded to the English, and explaining the Motives which had hitherto kept me silent respecting them.

165. Late in the evening Captain Sutherland of the Brig Guardian arrived at Bangkok, and upon perusal of the Dispatches which he brought to me, I deemed it advisable to write and send after Captain Coffin on the following morning, another Letter, No. 29, to the address of the Secretary to Government at Prince of Wales Island. I was apprehensive lest some parts of my Journal would give the Governor of Prince of Wales Island an impression that I had actually relinquished the Cause of the Rajah of Queda, and I conceived that I could not too soon apprize my Superiors of the sentiments, which my residence and experience here had forced me to adopt with respect to the question of our ceding to the Siamese Government any portion of our conquest on the Coast

of Tenasserim, in which the inhabitants are purely Burmese.

166. On the 5th May Phya Phi-phut Kosa called to show me a Siamese Translation, which had been made from the Burmese Copy of our Treaty with Ava. I was obliged to explain several passages, and particularly the 10th Article, which was rendered into the Siamese in such a manner as to excite considerable mistrust on the part of this suspicious race. The phrase that "The King of Siam having taken a part &c. is "*included* in the above Treaty," was translated into "The King of Siam having taken a part &c. is *marked* "in this Treaty." Marked to receive hereafter good or bad? was the question put to me by Phya Phi-phut.

167. Late on the evening of the 7th May Phya Phi-phut called upon me to state that the Court was about to forward Letters to Menam-noi, and that if I had any Letters for Captain Fenwick its Messengers would take charge of them. Pya Phi-phut declared that he was incorrect when he stated that there are no such Pegu Prisoners as those I had mentioned on the 3d, that the Ministers admit there are several and have given orders for an enquiry to be instituted and a List of the whole to be prepared; and that the moment this List is prepared my application would be answered. He further assured me, that every one of these Peguers, who wishes to join Captain Fenwick, shall be sent, and that I may apprize that Officer, that His Majesty of Siam has issued peremptory orders on the subject. From Phya Phi-phut's conversation I discovered that the principal object of the Dispatches which the Court is now about to send to Menam-noi, is to instruct Phya Maha Yothia to depute some trusty Officers to visit Captain Fenwick, in order to gather full information as to our proceedings in that quarter, and to ascertain whether the war with Ava is finally concluded according to the terms detailed in the Treaty

which I have presented to the Ministers. The Siamese are still confident that the Burmese do not intend to close the war, but are waiting for a good opportunity of committing some foul treachery against us, and I am satisfied that Captain Fenwick and our Officers on the Coast of Tenasserim, cannot be too guarded in their communications with any Siamese Officers who may pay them a visit. Such persons ought to be so treated as to prevent their returning to this Capital with mischievous or false intelligence, by which the public mind is much unsettled.

(NOTE. There is no para numbered 168 either here or in the duplicate copy of the Journal.)

169. Phya Maha Yothia arrived suddenly at Bangkok on the 8th. This circumstance will probably change the intention of the Court to dispatch Messengers to Menam noi. Late on the same night Mr. Leal returned to Bangkok viâ Martaban and Menam noi, with Dispatches from Captain Fenwick and Mr. Maingy. I regretted to learn from Mr. Leal, that Phya Kray and the Siamese Chief at Chimpohun have sent back to Mergui but a very small portion of the Burmese Prisoners under their charge, and I conceived it proper therefore to address a Memorial, No. 30, to the Ministers immediately; conveying the information communicated in Mr. Maingy and Captain Fenwick's Letters, as well as the intelligence which Mr. Leal had collected respecting the Prisoners. I took this opportunity of applying also to the Court, for the release of some Native Christians, Jean Baptiste Gabriel and 4 others, the Commander and Seacunnies of a Vessel which was taken by a Siamese Detachment 4 or 5 years ago off the Coast of Tavoy, whilst conveying a party of Burmese Officers from Rangoon to Tavoy. Gabriel is well known to Mr. Galastaun a respectable Merchant at Penang, who lately wrote to me respecting him, and his Wife and Son, who are now living at Tavoy, have applied to me in his favor through Mr. Leal. The Vessel was burnt and the Native Christians and Burmese brought to

Bangkok in Chains. Mr. Gabriel informs me, that after they had been in close confinement for several Months, the Wangna removed the irons from the Native Christians, who have since been at large at Bangkok, but that all their applications to be allowed to return to Bengal have been attended with no success.

170. Mr. Leal, since his absence from Bangkok, has had an opportunity of seeing the whole line of Frontiers between the Siamese Dominions and our Conquests from Ava, having visited Mergui, Pakchan, Tavoy, Martaban, and Preeke dee Samong. I may take a future opportunity of submitting a Copy of his Journal, and at present will mention that he was only 15 days coming from Martaban to Bangkok, including a detention at Menam Noi and Ratpuri of 1½ day, that he saw but very insignificant parties of Siamese at Menam-noi and on the frontiers in that direction, and found the route by no means difficult, the sketch of it prepared by me being considered by him as very accurate, and that he dwells much upon the practicability of opening with the utmost ease a navigable passage through the Isthmus of Krow between Pak-chan and Chimpohun. Mr. Leal states, that Maha Yothia has anticipated the orders of the Court and deputed a party of about 50 Men to Martaban, for the purpose of gathering intelligence respecting our proceedings, Mr. Leal having met them a few days on this side of Martaban in 5 Boats.

171. Phya Phi-phut called on the evening of the 9th and made many complaints against Mr. Leal for having refused to wait at Menam noi or Ratpuri when requested in order that intelligence of his arrival might have been forwarded to the Court in advance, according to the established Customs of the Country. The truth is, the Court is extremely vexed at Mr. Leal's having seen and travelled over so much of the interior of Siam, and if he had waited at Menam noi until Accounts of his arrival there had been received

here, there is no question that he would never have been suffered to pass down. I begged Phya Phi-phut to apologize to the King for Mr. Leal's conduct, attributing it to his anxiety to deliver the Dispatches entrusted to him with all possible expedition, and promising that he should be warned against offending again in such a manner. I afterwards called with Mr. Leal upon the Prah Klang, and impressed upon the Minister the necessity for the King of Siam directing a thorough investigation to be instituted into the conduct of the Siamese Officers with respect to the Chimpohun Prisoners. I endeavoured also to pacify the Minister regarding Mr. Leal.

172. On the morning of the 13th May, I saw the Prah Klang, who informed me that the Ministers had examined Phya Kray, and that he denies the whole of the Charges alleged against him by the Burmese who have returned to Mergui from Chimpohun; that he states that he had dispatched the Prisoners in five different Parties, and at intervals, which would account for only the first Party of 53 Men having reached Mergui before Mr. Leal's departure; but that he admits that a Party of about 37 Men remains at Chimpohun, having been too unwell and too infirm from age to undertake the journey to Mergui. The Prah Klang then delivered to me a List which he had received from Phya Kray, and a literal Translation of which is as follows.

Burmese dispatched from Chimpohun.

Sunday 13th day of the 3d decreasing Moon in the year Fowl ...	53	237 Men
Wednesday 8th day of the 4th increasing Moon in the year Fowl	67	
Saturday 11th day of the 4th increasing Moon in the year Fowl	39	
Thursday 1st day of the 4th increasing Moon in the year Fowl ...	44	
Saturday 3d day of the 4th increasing Moon in the year Fowl ...	34	

The Prah Klang also assured me, that a List of the Pegu Prisoners brought from the Martaban Districts is making, in order that the whole may be sent back immediately.

173. In the afternoon Phya Phi-phut called upon me with a communication from the Ministers requesting me to give them a meeting on the following evening at the residence of Prince Krom Meun Surin, in order that we may discuss together the several Articles of a Treaty. I now delivered to Phya Phi-phut a Memorial No. 31, which I had prepared, with a revised draft of the Treaty that I had previously tendered, and desired him to request the Ministers to peruse and consider these Documents well before we met on the following day. I asked the Phya also to let me see before I met the Ministers, a revised draft of their Treaty which I understood they had made.

174. Shortly after 8. P. M. we repaired to the Palace of Krom Meun Surin, where every preparation appeared to have been made for an important debate. On either side of the Prince were seated the Chakri, Kalahom, Tharama and Prah Klang, and a little below them were Phya Kray, Phya Si-Phi Phut, the Rajahs of Ligor and Singora, and several other Officers. We sat down in the middle of the Hall of Audience near Phya Phi-phut, who was the channel of communication between my Interpreters, and the Prince and Ministers. The first question related to Queda. I used every Argument in my power to persuade the Ministers of the justice, humanity and policy of restoring our Ally, the Ex-King. I pointed out the great mutual benefits which such an arrangement would afford to both the Siamese and English Nations; the certainty of our friendship remaining unbroken and the security and cordiality which such a concession on the part of Siam would give to our future intercourse. I argued, flattered and

even threatened, but I am sorry to record I made no impression. The Prince and Ministers objected most decidedly against the Ex-King, for having connected himself with the Burmese, and done every thing in his power to injure Siam. They repeatedly assured me that the future Government of Queda should be settled in such a manner as to preclude all chance of collision with the British Government, and so as to ensure the establishment of the most friendly intercourse between that Country and Penang. They asked me whether I was prepared, for the sake of Queda, to reject all the other advantages which it was in the power of my Mission to obtain in favour of the British Government, and declared that His Majesty the King of Siam would appeal to the Governor General himself, and point out the grounds upon which His Majesty found it absolutely impossible to consent to the restoration of the Ex-King. At length, when the discussion had for some time been very irritating on both sides, I consented to let the subject drop for the present.

175 I then entered into the question of the conduct of Siam towards the Malayan States. I refused to take any notice of Perak, considering the right of Siam to interfere with that Country as already disproved; but referring to Calantan and Tringano, I observed that the British Government admitted, that certain Malayan States, in token of respect and as a means of securing the good will of a powerful neighbour, have been accustomed from early times to send the *Boonga Mas* and *Perak* to Siam, but that in doing so, those States had not given up their independence, as their Government, Laws and Customs remained widely different from those of Siam; and that, under these circumstances, the British Government could not possibly view with indifference any attempt which Siam might make to over-run these Malayan States, in the same manner as it had done

Queda, disturbing the Peace and Tranquillity of the British Settlements in their neighbourhood, and putting an end to the Trade and intercourse which now subsist between those States and Penang, Malacca and Singapore. The Ministers did not attempt to defend, so stoutly as I had expected, the right of Siam to give whatever orders it pleased to those States, but objected to the 2d Article of my proposed Treaty, upon the ground that the moment Tringano became aware of such a stipulation, it would attack Calantan, from which procedure nothing but the fear of Siam now withheld it. The Ministers assured me, that so long as Tringano and Calantan committed no aggression, Siam had no intention of interfering with them more than what it has done, and at the close of the conference, they partially, acquiesced in the stipulation which I proposed, that if any of those Malayan States who have been accustomed from remote times, to send the *Bobnga Mas* and *Perak* to Siam, refuse to send that token of respect or commit any aggression against Siam, the Siamese shall be allowed to go and correct it, giving the British Government thus a right, if it please to exercise it to protect those States from any tyrannical usurpation or interference on the part of Siam. I found it in vain as I had always expected, to persuade the Ministers to relinquish at once the Siamese claim of Supremacy over these Malayan States. I endeavoured also to contribute (? constitute) the British Government in direct terms the Arbitrator in all differences between Siam and those States; but did not press this point much, because the above Clause will always enable the British Government to check and regulate the exercise of the Siamese claim. so far as it may suit our interests or future policy. The Ministers were decidedly told, that the British Government would not admit the right of the Siamese to occupy the States of Tringano and Calantan; and this declaration will, I hope restrain Siamese encroachments in that quarter.

176. The Ministers then proposed, that I should read and give my opinion upon the revised Draft of their Treaty. I replied that I conceived my Draft accorded more with what was necessary to be done, but still as the Siamese would place more confidence in a Document which themselves had drawn up, I had no objection to permit their Draft to serve as the basis of a Treaty. In order to afford my Superiors the best possible conception of the character, views and feelings of the Court of Siam, I have made literal Translations of the first and second Drafts of the Treaty, which the Ministers had prepared, and I now annex these very curious Documents Nos. 32 and 33, with such Notes as tend to show the nature and grounds of the alterations and additions to which I succeeded in persuading the Ministers to accede.

177. The conference lasted until 3 o'clock in the morning. The discussions with me were carried on almost entirely by the Prince, the Prah Klang and the Rajah of Ligor. The Chakri, Kalahom and Phya Kray only occasionally made observations, But the most sturdy Opponent I had on the Queda question, was the Raja of Ligor, who unceremoniously denied most of the facts which I urged, as to the very large amount of the population which has emigrated from Queda, and as to the mischievous interruptions which his Officers at Queda and Quala Muda are in the habit of giving to the trade and intercourse between Penang and Queda. It was amusing however to see the dexterity and address, with which His Highness persuaded the Prince and Prah Klang to acquiesce in almost every thing else that I proposed, with exception to the restoration of the Ex King of Queda.

178. On the following day the 15th I sent a Message to the Rajah of Ligor, that his conduct on the preceding night would ruin him in the estimation of my Government, and that at our next conference

with the Ministers I should not hesitate to expose the whole of his proceedings at Queda.

179. At 8 P.M. of the 16th we again proceeded to the Palace of Prince Krom Meun Surin where in addition to the Ministers and Officers whom we saw on the 14th the fifth Minister of State, Chow Phya Yomerat, and a Chief of Lao were present. The 6th Minister, Chow Phya Potithep, is said to be labouring under severe sickness. I was first informed, that the Ministers had drawn up an article respecting the Malayan States, which they wished to substitute in lieu of the Clause I had proposed on the preceding Night. Upon reading this Article, I found it most objectionable, assuming on the part of Siam the most arrogant pretensions over the Malayan States, among other points, that those States should not treat Siam with disrespect. I ridiculed this expression, asked who was to decide what the Siamese chose to consider as disrespect, and decidedly opposed the introduction of the Article. The rest of the Treaty was then read, and further additions and alterations were proposed by me, the nature of which are shown in the Notes annexed to No. 33.

180. The Rajah of Ligor on this night avoided speaking himself as much as possible, but we repeatedly saw him prompting the Prah Klang. I availed myself of opportunities for pointing out to the Ministers in very strong terms, the serious collision His Highness had nearly brought on with the British Government, by refusing to apprise Mr Maingy, when deputed by the Honorable the Governor of Penang to enquire, the object of the armament which had been collected at Queda, and the mischievous proceedings of his Emissaries at Penang, where the name and character of the Raja of Ligor, I stated, I was sorry to declare, were held in such terror by the Native and such abhorrence by the European inhabitants, that I feared the relations between Penang and Queda could

never be placed upon a quiet and satisfactory footing, so long as His Highness or any of his family governed the territory of Queda. I urged the Ministers to recommend to His Majesty to appoint some Malayan Chief to rule Queda, if the Ex King could not be restored. The Raja of Ligor seemed to feel keenly the severity of my animadversions. The Ministers declared, that His Majesty would send persons to enquire of the principal Inhabitants of Queda, whom they would prefer for their future Governor, in lieu of the Ex King. I recommended that the Officers deputed to make this enquiry at Queda, should be sent viâ Penang and not viâ Ligor. I pressed the Ministers again to restore our Ally the Ex King, and it was not until the discussion became angry on both sides, and I was satisfied of the impolicy of further perseverance that I yielded the point, upon condition that certain facilities should be stipulated in the Treaty to be given to the Trade and intercourse between Penang and Queda, and that His Majesty of Siam should make such an arrangement with respect to the future Government of Queda, as to preclude all chance of collision or disturbance between that Country and Penang. The Prah Klang now declared to me, that if I would only desist from pressing the Ministers respecting Queda, every other proposition which I had made to them respecting a free Trade at Bangkok, and even the payment of 1500 Ticals per fathom of breadth upon our Vessels, should be acceded to.

181. I was then asked, in what language the Treaty should be written, and upon my proposing Siamese and English, the Prah Klang declared that none of the Ministers would know what I might write in English. A very unpleasant distrust and fear against the British Government, presuming that it might hereafter put unwarrantable constructions upon any part of the Treaty, was now shown. I consented however, and my consent pleased the

Ministers much, that the Treaty should be written out in the Malayan as well as the Siamese and English Languages. We did not return home again until 3 o'clock in the morning. It was settled that I should on a future day call upon the Prah Klang to draw up in concert with him, the Port Regulations, which shall hereafter apply to English Vessels and Merchants, and the Minister promised to arrange these in the manner that would be most consonant to our wishes.

182. I am bound to declare, that nothing could be more Princely and Gentlemanly than the conduct of Krom Meun Surin at both these conferences. He showed an intelligence and moderation that surprised us all. He repeatedly saw and acknowledged the fairness and justice of a proposition made by me, when no other Siamese in the room could apprehend it; and whenever the discussion was becoming irritating, he strove to restore all parties to reason and quiet.

183. On the 17th May the Prah Klang proceeded to Paknam to receive an Envoy who has arrived from Cochin China with certain Siamese that had been shipwrecked off that Country. We are told that the Envoy is not to be admitted to the Capital, and that the Prah Klang is to dismiss him from Paknam. Various reasons are given for the Envoy not being admitted to the Capital, among others, jealousy and suspicion of our opening any intercourse with him.

184. On the 18th May I prepared to be forwarded, by the Ship Hunter and through the Resident of Singapore, a Dispatch to the address of the Honble. the Governor of Prince of Wales Island, containing a Duplicate of the Papers which were transmitted by the American Ship Liverpool Packet, and a continuation of my Journal with its Appendix from the 1st to the present date.

(Signed) H. BURNEY Captain
Envoy to the Court of Siam.

No. 28.

LIST of the Port and Anchorage Duties at Bangkok upon the Ship Hunter, Captain Johnson, of 235 Tons burthen, as delivered by the Minister, Chow Pya Prah Klang, to Captain Burney Envoy to the Court of Siam. Bangkok, 1st May 1826.

	Ticals.	Slings.	Total of each.	Total.
ON ACCOUNT OF HIS MAJESTY THE KING OF SIAM.				
Measurement Duty at 80 Ticals per Siamese Fathom, the Hunter measuring 4 Fathoms in breadth			320.—	
For a Pass for Departure			522.—	
Do. for Admission (to the Capital)			512.—	
				1,354.—
ON ACCOUNT OF THE OFFICERS OF THE KING.				
Chow Pya Kosa Thibody (Prah Klang) for the Vessel's arrival and departure			36.—	
Pya Phi Phut Kosa (his deputy) for Do. Do.			24.—	
Pya Chula (His Majesty's Merchant) for Passes for Admission and Departure			24.—	
Luang Sura Sa Khon (Port Captain) for Do. Do.			24.—	
Khun Radsithi (Pya Chula's Son and His Majesty's Mercantile Clerk)				
For Passes for Admission and Departure	12.			
For Superintending Weighing ...	6.			
For Superintending Sales and Purchases	3.			
			21.—	
Four Interpreters			21.—	

		Ticals.	Slings.	Total of each.	Total.
Brought over ...				1,354.—	
Luang Keo Ayat (Promat, a natural brother of the Prah Klang's)					
For keeping the Accounts ...	6.				
For Superintending Sales and Purchases	3.				
			9. –		
Khun Wisoot Sa Khon for Superintending the Interpreters ...	...		12. –		
Clerk of the Seals (*Samian Tra*) for 5 Notes at 2 Ticals 2 Slings each ...	...		14. –		
Clerk Wen for 11 Notes. at Do. Do.	...		27. 2		
Pya Chula's Clerk for 11 Do. at Do. Do.	...		27. 2		
Luang Sura Sa Khon or Port Captains Clerk, at Do. Do.	...		27. 2		
Radsithi's Clerk for 11 Notes at 1 Tical 2 Slings each, ...	...		16. 2		
Four Interperters	...		16. 2		
Clerk of the Godowns, who sat and Superintended 3 Accounts	...		15. –		
Luang Sunowarat (Radsithi's brother) and Luang Kopitan, and Sebastian, an Interperter	...		18. –		
Superintending Clerks, 8 Men, at 3 Ticals each	...		24. –		
Provisions supplied to all the Clerks, 24 Men at 4 Ticals each	...		96. –		
				460.–	
					1,814.–
On account of the Officers of the Wang-na.					
Clerk of the Seals for 4 Notes at 1 Tical 1 Sling each	...		5. –		
Clerk Wen for 5 Notes at 1 Tical 1 Sling each	...		6. 1		
Clerk Luang Kalujee for 5 Notes at 1 Tical 1 Sling each	...		6. 1		
Prah Surah Prassa's or Beneditto's, Wang-na's Port-Captain's Clerk, at 1 Tical 1 Sling each	...		6. 1		
Clerk Khun Noochit for 5 Notes at 3 Slings	...		3. 3		

	Ticals.	Slings.	Total of each.	Total.
Brought over ...				1,814. –
Interpreter Thow Khun Noochit	3.	3		
Clerk Khun Siayat, who sat 2 Accounts at 1 Tical each	2.	–		
Clerk of the Godowns, who sat and superintended 2 Accounts at 2 Ticals. 2 Slings each, ...	5.	–		
Provisions for the Clerks, 6 Men, at 4 Ticals each, ...	24.	–		
			62. 1	
				62. 1
Total of the Charges at Bangkok, Ticals			...	1,876. 1

List of the established Charges upon a Vessel at the Guard Houses below Bangkok.

PAKNAM.

On account of the Governor.

1 Shawl, or in Money	80.	–		
9 Yards of Chintz, or Ditto	12.	–		
2 Pieces of Red Cotton Cloth, or Ditto, ...	8.	–		
Wide Sarongs to the value of	2.	–		
Narrow Ditto to the value of	1.	1		
			103. 1	

On account of the Officers.

Passes for admission and departure, at 12 Ticals each	24.	–		
8 Pieces of Chintz, or in money, ...	8.	–		
Pilotage, ...	24.	–		
Inspecting Officers	3.	–		
Charge of the Guns, ...	6.	–		
			65. –	

	Ticals.	Slings.	Total of each.	Total.
Brought over			168.1	1,876.1
PAKLAAT.				
UPON ARRIVAL.				
Measurement Charge	4. –			
8 Pieces of Chintz, or in money, ...	8. –			
UPON DEPARTURE.				
Measurement Charge	4. –			
Inspecting Officers	2. –			
For taking a Copy of the Port Clearance received at Bangkok	–. 2			
			18. 2	
				186.3
Grand Total, Ticals...				2,063.–

A True Translation from the Original List
(Signed) H. BURNEY Captain
Envoy to the Court of Siam.

NOTES.

It should always be remembered that besides the above, Custom Duties were charged upon the Cargoes of the Hunter. A general Import Duty of 8 per Cent, and an Export Duty, varying from 20 to 50 per Cent.

Only 2 Clerks and 1 Weighman actually attended, and their attendance was limited to 3 hours a day, and most irregularly. They applied for remuneration and food to Mr. Hunter, declaring that no portion of the charges made by the Prah Klang on such account was ever received by them. Upon enquiry, the Prah Klang stated that these Charges had been levied for a Century past, and that whether a man performed the service described, or received the Amount charged on his account, is immaterial, as the ancient Customs of the Country direct the Charges to be set down in the manner detailed in this Account. The mistake charging for Interpreters *twice* was ingeniously explained, namely, that the said Charges was for the Clerks belonging to the Interpreters; but as the Interpreters have no such Assistants, the money would be given to themselves. Neither the King's nor the Wang-na's Port Captain is allowed a Clerk, and Radsithi is Pya Chula's Clerk. Mr. Hunter never saw, nor until he was shewn this List, did he ever hear of the numerous "Notes" for which his Vessel is charged. The Prah Klang explained, that every intelligence notifying the arrival or departure of a Vessel, and every order respecting her Cargo are put down in writing, for the information of the different Officers, by their Clerks, who are authorized to charge for the receipt as well as the transmission of a Note. As no portion of the Cargoesof the Hunter was sold to or purchased from the Prah Klang, the "Clerks of the Godowns" were not employed, yet they are included in this List for superintending Accounts which never existed. Great trouble is always given to the foreign

Merchants at Bangkok by the Prah Klang's Clerks and Weighmen, who seldom attend before 12 and retire always before 5. Without their joint presence a Vessel cannot receive her Cargo, and the foreign Merchant has daily the trouble of going himself in search of one of the two and is often at a stand through the absence of both Parties. Mr. Hunter was refused a detailed List of the Port and Anchorage Charges, but was obliged to pay at once an Amount of 1,876 Ticals at Bangkok, and only Sixty five Ticals at Paknam. Upon pointing out to the Prah Klang, that the above sums were not in accordance with this List which was subsequently given to me, nor with the Lists of the Port Charges levied upon the Brig Shannon and Siren, he stated that the difference had been remitted in favor of Mr. Hunter, and that this List having been prepared under his own superintendence is more correct than those which were formerly given. The Officers of the Prah Klang's Department called upon Mr. Hunter to pay a fee of 22 Ticals, upon each Junk which was employed to carry a residue of the Hunter's Cargo outside of the Bar, but on my appealing to the Minister and reminding him that the King had abolished this Fee upon my representation, the charge was not persisted in. When I informed the Minister that a publication in other Countries of this List of the Port Charges at Bangkok, would bring much disgrace upon Siam, he replied that the Document had been given for my private information, and that he did not see any necessity for publishing it.

The American Ship Liverpool Packet, carried away a Cargo of 6,000 Peculs of Sugar. She brought Spanish Dollars only, and was charged for Port and Anchorage Dues 1082 Dollars, and for the Sugar 6 Dollars per Pecul including the Export Duty, besides an additional Sum at the rate of 12 Dollars per Hundred Peculs for 4,300 Peculs of the Sugar, which 5 Junks conveyed to her outside of the Bar. Her

burthen is 400 Tons, and breadth according to Siamese Measurement 4½ Fathoms.

(Signed) H. BURNEY Captain
Envoy to the Court of Siam.

No. 30.

Bangkok 9th May 1826.

MEMORIAL from Captain H. Burney Envoy to the Court of Siam to the Ministers of the King of Siam.

Captain Burney has to apprize the Ministers of Siam that Mr. Leal has brought dispatches from the English Governors of Tavoy and Martaban desiring Captain Burney to convey the following information to the Court of Siam.

Captain Fenwick, after the fullest enquiry, now finds that the Siamese Detachments, last year, carried away 1,000 Pegu Inhabitants from several of the districts of Martaban, which have been ceded to the British Government. These Men having now become British Subjects, Captain Fenwick, who has heard much of the benevolence and generosity of the King of Siam, solicits His Majesty will allow them, before the rainy Season arrives, to return to their mourning friends and relatives, who are daily complaining to Captain Fenwick on the subject.

Mr. Maingy has released and sent back to Chimpohun with every care and kindness, the whole of the Siamese Prisoners, 109 Persons, who were detained at Mergui, but in consequence of the Ministers of Siam having declined to forward their orders to the Pya of Chimpohun through Mr. Maingy, as Captain Burney proposed, much misapprehension and bad feeling have been caused. When Mr. Leal proceeded to Chimpohun from Mergui the new Pya declared that all the Burmese Prisoners had been sent back some days before. But how were these British Subjects sent back? In so cruel and circuitous a manner as to justify indeed the apprehensions of the Pya of Chimpohun, as stated in his Letter to Mr. Maingy, that many of them would not reach

their destination. Only 53 Men have reached Mergui, and they state that they asked Pya Kray to send them in. Boats viâ Paknam (? Pakchan), or by some short Route, but that they were sent up to Bangnaram with scarcely any food, and in the most cruel manner. Is this the manner in which Pya Kray observes the benevolent orders of the King of Siam? The Prisoners from Chimpohun further declare, that Pya Kray has brought up with him to Bangkok 250 of the Prisoners, whom he refused to send back to Mergui when the orders for releasing the whole of them arrived, and that there are still 200 Men detained at Chimpohun. If what these Burmese say be true, evil will befall some one. The English Officers at Mergui and Tavoy do not believe that Pya Chimpohun has released the whole of the Prisoners whom the King of Siam ordered him to release, and Captain Burney knows that those Officers will soon take steps to ascertain how far their suspicions are true. All this misunderstanding has occurred from the Ministers of Siam having refused to accede to Captain Burney's proposition that their Letter to the Pya of Chimpohun should be sent through the Governer of Mergui, in order that the latter might have an opportunity of sending an Officer to receive proper Charge of the Prisoners at Chimpohun. The Letter from the Chow Pya Maha Sana, expressly directed him to release the whole of the Burmese Prisoners at Chimpohun and to suffer them to return home by whatever Route they might please. By Paknam the passage from Chimpohun to Mergui is only seven days, and by Bangnaram upwards of a Month. Captain Burney will now appeal to His Majesty the King of Siam to give orders for a strict enquiry to be made into this Affair, and for a complete List of the whole of the Pegu and Burmese Prisoners belonging to the English to be prepared. Captain Burney need not acquaint the Ministers of Siam, that the English only apply for their own, when they request the whole of these

Prisoners to be immediately returned. No real friendship can possibly exist between the English and Siamese, so long as the latter detain the Subjects of the former.

Captain Burney has also received Letters from Penang and Tavoy respecting 5 or 6 Christians, Natives of Calcutta, whom a Siamese detachment apprehended off the Coast of Tavoy and brought to Bangkok 4 or 5 years ago. It appears, that the Burmese forced these Christians and the Vessel belonging to them into their service. Captain Burney has heard that His Highness the Wang-na has treated these poor Christian Prisoners with great indulgence and kindness; but as the Burmese can never again do any injury to Siam, or force such Native Christians into their service, and as these Men are subjects of the British Government, Captain Burney solicits His Highness the King of Siam will be graciously pleased to order them to be released, and to be allowed to return to their Native Country of Bengal.

(Signed) HENRY BURNEY Captain.
Envoy to the Court of Siam.

No. 31.

Bangkok, 13th May 1826.

MEMORIAL submitted to the Ministers of the King of Siam by Captain H. Burney Envoy to the Court of Siam.

The Mission Brig Guardian having now returned, Captain Burney trusts the Ministers are fully satisfied, that he did not dispatch her for any purpose hostile to Siam. Captain Burney has repeatedly perused the Answer which the Ministers returned to his last Memorial, and he regrets to say that that Answer is calculated to detract from the reputation of the Siamese Ministers. The King of Siam will hereafter be able to judge, how truly Captain Burney desires to establish friendly relations between the English and the Siamese. But Captain Burney now begs that Ministers will again carefully examine the Draft of the Treaty which he presented to them, and in which he cannot discover anything contrary to the established Customs of Siam, but much calculated to exalt the name and character of the King of Siam.

The English admit that certain Malayan States have been accustomed to present Gold and Silver Flowers to Siam in token of respect, friendship and awe because Siam is powerful and those States are small and require protection. But the English cannot admit, that those Malayan States are subject to Siam in the same manner as her own Provinces of Ligor and Singora. Their Government, Laws and Customs are widely different from those of Siam. Those States can never be considered what the Ministers in their reply to Captain Burney consider them, as Possessions of Siam to the same extent as Prince of Wales Island is a possession of the English. If Siam enters into a War, those States it is true, cannot join her enemy, but then they are at full liberty to assist Siam or not, as they please. The

English, Captain Burney believes, will not admit the Siamese to invade or oppress the States of Tringano and Calantan, and in order to prevent any future misunderstanding on this point, the English desire the Siamese to join with them in engaging that the Troops and subjects of neither party shall attack or invade those States, or occupy them in any manner. The English are quite willing to engage that such Malayan States as have been accustomed from remote times, to present triennially the Gold and Silver Flowers to Siam shall continue, without obstruction, to submit that token of respect to the King of Siam, and Captain Burney has added to the 2d Article of the Draft of a Treaty, a Clause providing for the continuance of this custom in favor of Siam. Captain Burney has lately heard that the Court of Siam has deputed a Person, commonly known by the name of Nakhoda Ullee, to Tringano, and Captain Burney fears that as this person was deputed without any friendly communication being first made to him, the English will believe that Nakhoda Ullee has been deputed to make mischief at Tringano between the English and Siamese.

With respect to Queda, while the Ministers request Captain Burney to drop the subject, he is urged by Letters, which the Brig Guardian has just brought up to represent still more forcibly to the King of Siam, that His Majesty had much better permit in a friendly manner the return of the King of Quedah and his people to their Country. Formerly, few or no disputes occurred between the Farmers of the Revenue in Queda and the Inhabitants of Penang. But of late such disputes are frequent. The Farmer at Qualla Muda committed aggressions on two former occasions, when Captain Burney visited and represented the matter to Pho-Seng the Raja of Ligor's Son at Queda. Captain Burney now hears, that the Farmer at Qualla Muda has again become troublesome, seizing the property and Boats belonging to British Subjects

upon frivolous pretences, and endangering the friendship between the Siamese and English. The English cannot submit to such interruptions to their Trade with the interior of Queda. The Raja of Ligor, who engaged by a solemn Treaty ratified by the Right Honorable the Governor General, to assist Captain Burney to effect the restoration of the King of Queda, will, in the event of the measure not being accomplished, be viewed with such distrust as to preclude for a long time the establishment of a friendly intercourse between his Followers in Queda and the Inhabitants of Prince of Wales Island. The English do not engage in Treaties for nothing. The Siamese must now come to some determination with respect to the Affairs of Queda, if they desire not to engage in any further disputes or discussions on this subject with the English. The Right Honorable the Governor General of British India, in the Address which Captain Burney had the honor to present from his Lordship to the King of Siam, urges the necessity for His Majesty's enlightened mind to suggest some arrangement, by the adoption of which the relations between the English Government of Prince of Wales Island, and the Siamese Governors of Ligor, Singora and Merdelong may be placed beyond all risk of future Collision and disturbance. This passage alludes to the harsh proceedings of those Siamese Governors towards the People and Kingdom of Queda, and Captain Burney is now bound to ascertain what plan His Majesty proposes to adopt with respect to that Country, in order to secure between it and Prince of Wales Island, and between the English and Siamese Governors in the neighbourhood, a more friendly intercourse and trade, and a more cordial understanding than what can possibly subsist under the present unsettled and unsatisfactory state of affairs. Captain Burney will add, if the King of Siam will permit the Rajah of Queda and his people to return to their homes,

Captain Burney will engage that the Raja of Queda shall solicit the forgiveness of His Majesty, and tender any compliment, or make any just atonement which the King may require. And Captain Burney will even engage to increase by a Sum of One or Two Thousand Dollars, the offered annual stipend to be paid to Siam by Queda. If this Affair can be settled according to the plan here pointed out, not only friendship between the English and Siamese, but the glory and reputation of His Majesty the King of Siam, will be much augmented.

Captain Burney much regrets to state, that of late, trade at Bangkok, has been even more oppressed than it was. The Commander of the American Vessel declared to the Chow Pya Prah Klang, that he would not return to this Port, were he offered two full Cargoes *gratis*, and that he will publish the misconduct of the Siamese Officers in every Country. Mr. Hunter also proposes to quit Siam, unless the Ministers conclude some Commercial Treaty with the English. Foreign Merchants generally speak well of Chow Pya Prah Klang and Pya Phi Phut Kosa, and declare that their petty Officers impose all the trouble and vexation. Chow Pya Prah Klang issues proper orders, but the Petty Officers only answer "*Kho-rap*", without paying the slightest attention to his orders. Mr. Hunter was last week obliged to apply himself for four successive days for a Pass for a Cargo Junk, and even after it was obtained, the Officers at Paklaat stopped the Junk for two days for a fee, which His Majesty had, upon Captain Burney's representation privately ordered to be abolished.

The Ministers in their Letter acquaint Captain Burney that when foreign Merchants have any complaints, they must first go, and represent the same to Pya Chula and Khun Radsithi. Whether these two Officers are really good or bad men Captain Burney does not know, but he has heard from every

Merchant and Commander of English and American Vessels, that Pya Chula, Khun Radsithi and Luang Keo Ayat give infinite trouble and vexation, and do all the mischief that prevents foreign Vessels from revisiting Bangkok. Captain Burney therefore submits to his Majesty the expediency of ordering these Officers to conduct the Duties annexed to their situations with more kindness and satisfaction to the foreign Merchant, and with more credit to themselves.

Captain Burney has received from the Chow Pya Prah Klang a detailed List of the Port and Anchorage Charges levied upon the Ship Hunter, and he is really unwilling to send a Copy of this Document to other Countries, where it will be sure of bringing much disgrace upon Siam.

In this List many Clerks, Godown Keepers, Weighmen, Letters, Interpreters and their Clerks, a quantity of provisions for the Clerks, and about 10 Passes are charged for; while Mr, Hunter never saw more than two Clerks and one Weighman, and they attended for scarcely 4 hours a day, and he was often obliged to go and call them himself. Captain Burney is extremely anxious to give satisfaction to His Majesty the King of Siam; but after seeing this List, how can he agree to increase the Offer which he formerly made of 1,500 Ticals per Fathom of breadth for each English Vessel? Captain Burney sees that a small portion of the Charges goes to the King, while a large portion is kept by Petty Officers, by Clerks, Godown Clerks, Weighmen and Clerks of the Interpreters; persons whom the English Merchant never sees. Captain Burney however has expunged from the 5th Article of the Schedule of Regulations, the Clause proposing that English Vessels coming to Bangkok a second, third or fourth time in the same year should at such times be charged at the rate of 1,000 Ticals only per Fathom of breadth,

as the Officers of the Chow Pya Prah Klang's Department do not appear to comprehend the manner in which Vessels are encouraged in every other Port to return to it as often as possible. Captain Burney has added to the 11th Article of the Schedule of Regulations a Clause stipulating that English Merchants, who visit Bangkok, shall be permited to send, if they please, to Lakhon Chaisi, Bamplasoy and other Places where Sugar is manufactured, in order to purchase there any Supplies of that Article which they may require. And Captain Burney has inserted a 12th Article in these Regulations, providing that British Subjects desirous of engaging in Ship building in the Territories of Siam, shall be afforded every facility and indulgence and shall not be required to pay additional Duties, Fees, or other Charges. Captain Burney can assure the Ministers, that in no manner could the employment of British Capital and Enterprize prove so beneficial to Siam, as well as to the British Merchant, as in Ship-building, for which the Territories of His Majesty the King of Siam possess such great resources and advantages.

(Signed) H. BURNEY Captain
Envoy to the Court of Siam.

No. 32.

Bangkok, 19th April 1826.

FIRST DRAFT of a TREATY proposed by the Ministers of the King of Siam to Captain Burney, Envoy to the Court of Siam.

His Majesty the King of Siam, who is most exalted, His Highness the Wang-na, and their Excellencies the great Ministers on the part of the Kingdom of Siam; The Governor of Europe, Governor of Bengal, and other great Officers on the part of the Country of the English frame a Treaty together with truth and sincerity, in order that the Siamese and English Nations may become great friends, and that their hearts may be truly joined in love and affection. The Government of Siam frames One Copy of the Treaty for the purpose of being sent and kept in the Country of Europe, and for the full information of every Country subject to Europe. The Seals of the Kingdom, of His Majesty the King of Siam, and of their Excellencies the Ministers will be put to this Copy to authenticate it. The Country of the English frames another Copy of the Treaty for the purpose of being kept in Siam, and for the information of every Country subject to Siam. The Seals of the Governor of Europe, the Governor of Bengal, and the other great English Officers will be put to this Copy to authenticate it, establishing thus a Treaty of Friendship and Commerce between both Nations,

Article 1st, The English and Siamese will form friendship with truth and sincerity. The Siamese shall not think of doing any thing that may encroach in any manner upon the English. The English shall not think of doing any thing that may encroach in any manner upon the Siamese.

Article 2d. With respect to the whole of the

Countries subject to the English, the Siamese shall not go and encroach upon, attack, invade, or seize any of them, or any of the Boundaries belonging to the English. The English shall settle, according to the Customs of the English, every matter that they please. With respect to the whole of the Countries subject to the Siamese, the English shall not go and encroach upon, attack, invade, or seize any of them, or any of the Boundaries belonging to the Siamese. The Siamese shall settle, according to the Customs of the Siamese, every matter that they please.

Article 3d. If any Country subject to the English commit aggression against the Country of the Siamese, the Siamese shall not go and do any thing against such Country; but shall first report to the English, who shall undertake a sincere and just examination, and if wrong punish according to the offence. If any Country subject to the Siamese commit aggression against the English, the English shall not go and do any thing against such Country; but shall first report to the Country of the Siamese. The Siamese shall undertake a just and sincere examination and if wrong the Siamese shall punish according to the offence.

Article 4th. All the Countries subject to Siam and all the Countries subject to Europe shall be friends together. The Government of Siam shall not look to the small Provinces, but shall look for friendship to the Countries of Europe and Bengal more than to other places. The Countries of Europe and Bengal shall not look to the small Provinces, but shall look for friendship to the Government of Siam more than to other places.

Article 5th. If a Merchant of the English Nation come to trade in Siam or in any Province subject to Siam, where he was formerly accustomed to go and trade, and if he follow the Customs of the Siamese Country, the Siamese shall aid, protect and

let him sell and buy with facility and afford succour, defence and redress against Pirates, Robbers and bad Men. If a Merchant of the Siamese Nation go and trade in the Country of the English or in any Province subject to the English, where he was formerly accustomed to go and trade, and if he follow the Customs of the English Country, the English shall aid, protect and let him sell and buy with facility and afford succour, defence and redress against Pirates, Robbers and bad Men.

Article 6th. If a Merchant, whether of the Siamese or English Nation go to trade with any Province where he was unaccustomed to go and trade, he shall go and seek the Governor of such Country on either side; if the Governor do not allow him to trade, he shall not go again to trade in such Country. If the Governor of the Country grant him permission to trade; then he shall go and trade as he pleases, and the Governor of the Country shall aid, protect and let him sell and buy with facility.

Article 7th. If a Merchant whether of the Siamese or English Nation go and sell and buy in the Country of the English, or in any Province subject to the English, or go and sell and buy in Siam, or in any Province subject to Siam, he shall pay the Duties upon Commerce, and follow the Customs of the Country on either side. If the Siamese or English Merchant have any Suit or Complaint whatever, he shall complain to the Siamese or English Officers of Justice, who will settle or redress the same according to the Laws of the Country on either side. If the Siamese or English Merchant sell or buy without enquiring whether the person who buys or sells is a bad or good man, and if he meet with a bad man, who takes the property and conceals himself or runs away; and if the Officers of Justice search and cannot apprehend the person, the Merchant shall not find fault with the Siamese or

English Officers, because the fault will be with the Merchant himself.

Article 8th. If a Merchant, whether belonging to the Siamese or English Nations, go and buy and sell in an English or Siamese Country and require Godowns and Houses or desire to remain and hire Godowns and Houses in which to place his Merchandize, if the Great Men and Officers of the Siamese or English Nations, shall assist, see and take care and not let the people of the Country oppress the Merchant, and not let the Merchant oppress the people of the Country. If the Merchant desire to put his property on board of a Boat, Sloop or Ship and ask permisssion to return to his Country at any time, he shall be allowed to return with facility.

Article 9th. If a Merchant desire to go and trade in any Country, whether belonging to the English or to the Siamese, and if any thing happens to himself or to his Boat, Ship or Junk, whether belonging to the English or to the Siamese, the English or Siamese Offiers shall aid and assist until it is set right. If a Sloop, Ship, Boat or Junk whether belonging to the Siamese or to the English is wrecked in any Country, the Siamese or English shall collect the property contained in the Ship, Boat or Junk, and whatever property is wrecked the Siamese or English Officers shall take an Inventory of the same, and restore it to the Commander of the Sloop, Ship, Boat or Junk, who shall recompense those who saved the property according to what may be just and proper.

Article 10th. If the Government of Siam desire upon any occasion to depute an Envoy to Europe or Bengal, the English shall receive him in a proper manner and with consideration. If the English desire upon any occasion to depute an Envoy to Siam, the Siamese shall receive him in a proper manner and

with consideration. If the Siamese Envoy who may visit the English Country, or the English Envoy who visits Siam, shall desire to speak upon any subject, he shall do so in the manner that may be most consistent with the great friendship subsisting between the two Countries. He shall not press any subject more than what may be proper, nor speak ill of any of the Siamese or English Officers, whether great or little Men, so as to destroy the road of friendship. Each party shall speak well, so that the road of friendship may be prolonged, increased, and become blessed.

Article 11th. Following the Custom of Siam with respect to all Foreigners coming to trade, and the ancient Laws of the Kingdom, Boats, Junks, Sloops and Ships that desire to come and trade at Bangkok must first anchor outside of the Bar, and the Commander must send a person to come and make a report to the Governor of Paknam, stating the Country whence, and for what purpose the foreigner is come, if it is to trade he must report the same and must furnish a List of the Crew, of the Guns and Fire Arms, and of the Powder, Shot, Spears and Swords, and an Account of the whole of the Cargo in the Ship. The Governor of Paknam shall then send an Officer, Pilot and Interpreter to go in and bring in the Vessel, which must anchor below the Chowkey that is the appointed place. The Officers shall go and examine the Vessel thoroughly, and then the Governor of Paknam shall transmit a report to His Majesty the King of Siam whose Seal only shall allow the Vessel to come up to Bangkok. The Guns, Powder and Shot shall be deposited at Paknam. Then the Governor of Paknam shall suffer the foreign Vessel to ascend to Bangkok. When the Vessel has arrived and anchored, the Officers, shall go and examine her and measure her breadth. If the Merchant desire to sell or buy or to load any Cargo, he shall tell the proper Officers who shall see and know every thing. The Officers shall levy the established Import

and Export Duties, and Port and Anchorage Duties according to the size of the Vessel and quantity of her Cargo. When the Merchant has sold and bought and paid all his Duties and desires to return, he must apply for a Port Clearance to the Chow Pya Prah Klang, and when he has received the same the Vessel will be able to go down. When it returns to Paknam it must stop, and anchor opposite to the Chokey and take the Port Clearance to the Governor of Paknam. After the Officers have gone and examined the Vessel, the Guns, Powder, and Shot may be received and embarked, and then the Vessel may sail. All foreign Vessels must conform to every one of these Rules and then they may come and trade with facility. If the Commander of any Vessel coming to trade at Bangkok shall not observe these Rules of the Country, he shall be considered as a bad man who treats the Country with disrespect, and the Officers shall punish him according to Law. If a European or Asiatic Merchant under English Colours shall come to trade in Siam he must follow what are the Customs of Siam respecting every Vessel. If a Siamese Merchant shall go and trade in an English Country, he shall follow what are the Customs of the English with respect to every Vessel. And this Treaty consisting of these 11 Articles let all the great and small Officers of the Siamese and English Nations and every great and small Province hear and receive as a Treaty that is concluded.

Translated literally from the Siamese

(Signed) H. BURNEY Captain
Envoy to the Court of Siam.

No. 33.

SECOND DRAFT of a Treaty proposed by the Ministers of the King of Siam to Captain Burney, Envoy from the Right Honorable the Governor General.

Bangkok, 17th May 1826.

The Notes show the additions and alterations introduced during Captain Burney's Conferences with the Ministers on the Nights of the 14th and 16th May.

Treaty.	Notes.
His Majesty the King of Siam, His Highness the Wang-na, their Excellencies the Ministers, on the part of Siam; His Majesty the King of England, the Governor General and other great Men of Bengal, on the part of the English, frame a Treaty together with truth and sincerity. The Siamese Government frames one Copy of the Treaty, in order that it may be taken to the English Government, and that every Country subject to the English may become fully informed. The Seals of their Excellencies the Ministers, and great Men will authenticate it. The English Government frames one Copy of the Treaty, in order that it may be placed at Bangkok, and that every Country subject to the Siamese may become fully informed. The Seals of the Governor General of Bengal and great Men of the English will authenticate it: Thus establishing a Treaty of Friendship and Commerce between both Nations.	I had no difficulty in having the name of the Honorable East India Company substituted for that of the King of England, and the Ministers acceded to my request, that the King of Siam's Seal also shall authenticate the Treaty.

Treaty.	Notes.
Article 1st. The English and the Siamese shall be Friends with truth, sincerity and candour. The Siamese must not think evil, so as to encroach upon, or prejudice the English. The English must not think evil, so as to encroach upon or prejudice the Siamese. With respect to all Countries subject to the English, the Siamese shall not go and encroach upon, attack or seize any of them, or the Boundaries belonging to the English. The English shall settle, according to the Customs of the English, every matter the English desire. With respect to all Countries subject to the Siamese, the English shall not go and encroach upon, attack or seize any of them or the Boundaries belonging to the Siamese. The Siamese shall settle according to the Customs of the Siamese, every matter the Siamese desire.	I stated that I had not been deputed to Siam to ask permission for the English to settle every matter in their own Country according to their own Customs. This Clause with respect to each Nation, the Ministers agreed to expunge, observing that it was inserted only to render the Article more clear.
Article 2d. If any Country subject to the English do any thing that offends the Country of the Siamese, the Siamese shall not go and injure such Country, but shall first report the matter to the English, who will undertake a true and sincere investigation, and if the fault be on the part of the English, the English will punish according to the of-	I proposed, and the Ministers acquiesced, that a Clause should be added to this Article, declaring that if any Siamese or English Country collect at any time a Force by land or water, it shall declare the object of such Force, if demanded by the Country in its immediate vicinity. And here I took occasion to let the Ministers fully understand, the serious

Treaty.	Notes.
fence. If any Country subject to the Siamese do any thing that offends the English, the English shall not go and injure such Country, but shall first report the matter to the Country of the Siamese, who will undertake a true and sincere investigation, and if the fault be on the part of the Siamese, the Siamese will punish according to the Offence.	consequences which had nearly ensued from the Raja of Ligore's having refused to declare to the Honorable the Governor of Penang, the object of the Armament which His Highness had collected at Queda last year.
Article 3d. If any Country or Boundary belonging to the Siamese or English, produce Mines of Gold, Silver, Lead, Copper or Iron; if the Place belongs to the English, the Siamese shall not intrude into, seize or work such property belonging to the English. Trees or any Fruits whatever, that may be good for selling or buying or for any other purpose, growing in any place or boundary belonging to the English, the Siamese shall not go and gather or cut the Trees or Fruits, or take them for trade or for any other purpose. If any Mines of Gold, Silver, Lead, Copper or Iron are found in a Place belonging to the Siamese, the English shall not intrude into, seize or work such property belonging to the Siamese. Trees or any Fruits whatever, that may be good for selling or buying, or for any other purpose,	I objected to this Article, asking if to seize upon the property of either would be consistent with the 1st Article, engaging that there should be a true and sincere friendship between both Nations, and that neither should go and encroach upon or seize any Country belonging to the other. The Ministers stated, that the Article was proposed to render this point more clear, but consented to strike it out. I have reason to believe, that the fear of our encroaching upon the Sapan-wood Forests on the Frontiers of Tavoy and Mergui, or of our seizing upon a Mine of Silver, which has lately been discovered near Bamphosay, led the Ministers to propose this Article.

Treaty.

growing in any place or Boundary belonging to the Siamese, the English shall not go and gather, or cut the Trees or Fruits, or take them for Trade, or for any other purpose.

Article 4th. If any Country belonging to the Siamese or English, whether to the West or East, whether above or below, lying near their Frontiers; if the English entertain a doubt respecting any Boundary which is not well known, then the Governor on the side of the English, shall send Letters, with Men and Officers from the Posts on the Frontiers, to enquire of the contiguous Siamese Governor, who shall appoint Officers and Men from the Posts on the Frontiers, to go and fix and show the boundary of each, so that both Parties may be assured of the same in a friendly manner. If the Governor on the side of the Siamese entertains a doubt respecting any boundary which is not well known, then he shall send Letters with Men and Officers from the Posts on the Frontiers, to enquire of the contiguous English Governor, who shall send Officers and Men from the Posts on the Frontiers, to go and fix and show the boundary of each, so that both Parties may be assured of the same in a friendly manner.

Notes.

I proposed that North and South should be substituted for "above and below" and that the words, "in concert", should be added after "fix" which were acquiesced in.

Treaty.	Notes.
Article 5th. If any subject of the Siamese, fly and reside within the boundaries of the English, the Siamese shall not intrude to apprehend him within the boundaries of the English. The Siamese shall go and represent the matter and demand him in a proper manner. The English shall be at liberty to deliver or not to deliver the party, because he went and sought the English himself. If any subject of the English fly and live within the Siamese boundaries, the English shall not intrude to apprehend him within the Siamese boundaries. They shall go and represent the matter and demand him in a proper manner. The Siamese shall be at liberty to deliver or not to deliver the Party, because he went and sought the Siamese himself.	I suggested the expressions "because he went and sought "the English (or Siamese) "himself" were unnecessary and they were expunged.
Article 6th. The English and Siamese have engaged by Treaty a sincere friendship. If English Merchants desire to go and trade in any Siamese Country, where there may be much Merchandize, their Vessels may go and trade, and the Siamese shall protect and assist them, and let them buy and sell with freedom. If Siamese Merchants desire to go and trade in any English Country where there is much Merchandize, their Junks and Boats shall go and trade, and	I could not succeed in having the phrase "where there is much Merchandize" expunged, and I saw that it was introduced to enable the Siamese to prevent our Vessels from touching at those Ports, with which it may not suit the views of the Government to permit our having intercourse at present. I succeeded in having introduced, that the Merchants of each Country shall be allowed to buy and sell *by themselves* in order to prevent the interven-

Treaty.	Notes.
the English shall protect and assist them, and let them buy and sell with freedom. The Siamese and English, who may visit each other's Country, must act according to the Customs of the Country; If they do not know the Customs of the Country, the Siamese and English Officers shall inform them. The subjects of Siam, who visit an English Country, must conform to every Custom of such Country. English subjects who visit the Siamese Country, must conform to to every Custom of the Siamese Country.	tion of the Prah Klang's Department at Bangkok, Some verbal alterations also were suggested and agreed to.
Article 7th. If a Siamese Merchant shall go to trade in Bengal or other Places subject to the English, or English Merchant go to trade at Bangkok or other Places subject to Siam; the Merchants must pay the duties upon trade conformably to the Regulations of each Country. If the Merchant have any Suit or complaint, he shall complain to the proper Officers of the Government, who will redress or decide it according to the Laws of the Country. If a Merchant trades without enquiring whether a man is good or bad, and sells or buys from a bad men with whom he may meet, and who may abscond with his property, and if the	The latter part of this Article was struck out at my suggestion and some additions made as to the steps which the Officers are to take for the Settlement of Debts, and for delivering to Heirs, or if they cannot come, to their Agents, the property of Subjects dying within the Jurisdiction of either State.

Treaty.

Officers after a diligent search cannot apprehend the man, the Merchant must not accuse the Officers of the Country, as the fault will rest with the Merchant himself.

Article 8th. If a Siamese or English Merchant goes to trade in an English or Siamese Country, and wants to build Godowns and Houses in which to place his Merchandize; if the Siamese or English Chief or Officers do not permit the party to remain, then he cannot remain. If they permit him to remain, then the Merchant can land and make his arrangements for remaining, and the Siamese and English Chiefs and Officers shall assist, see and take care of him, and not let the inhabitants of the Country oppress the Merchant, nor let the Merchant oppress the Inhabitants of the Country. Whenever a Merchant desires to embark in a Vessel with his Property, and asks permission to return to any Country, then he shall be allowed to *return* with freedom.

Notes.

I could not succeed in persuading the Ministers to render this Article more precise as to liberty of residence to be allowed to British Merchants. They were anxious not to include any thing that might tend to deprive them of the right of refusing any British Subject permission to reside, and they seemed to be afraid that a Certificate of Leave from the Right Honorable the Governor General might tend to prejudice the exercise of their own right of refusal. To the latter part of the Article they agreed to add, that the subjects of each State as well as Merchants shall be allowed to retire from each other's Territory whenever they desire, provided they are not in Debt.

Treaty.

assistance and protection. If a Vessel belonging to the Siamese or English is wrecked in any Country, and the Siamese or English collect any of the property belonging to the Vessel, the Siamese or English Chief shall enquire and ascertain, and deliver the property to the Commander of the Vessel, who will pay a proper remuneration to the persons that collected the property.

Article 10th. If an English Merchant desire to go and trade in a Siamese Country, where it has not been the Custom to go and trade, he must first go and ask the Governor of the Country. If any Country has not any Merchandize, the Government shall apprize the Vessel that goes to trade that there is none. If any Country has sufficient Merchandize to receive a Vessel the Governor of the Country shall let the Vessel enter, and when it anchors, if the Merchant desire to go into the Interior, whether by Land or Boat to trade, if it be proper for him to go, the Governor of the Country shall allow him to go. If the road by which the Merchant desire to go be not proper, the Governor of the Country shall not let him go according as the Governor of the Country may think fit. If the

Notes.

The greater part of this Article was expunged, and I advised the Ministers, without effect, to let me know at once what Siamese Ports they were unwilling that British Vessels should visit. An Article was added, after considerable discussion, providing that British Subjects, not being a Burmese, Peguer or Descendant of a European upon being furnished with Passes shall be allowed to travel by land and water, to trade between the Dominions of Siam and our Conquests of Ye, Tavoy, Mergui and Tenasserim. The Ministers declare that no Burmese or Peguer could for the present, be admitted into the Siamese Territories, and that a great portion of the Burmese Country still belongs to Ava, the Inhabitants of which might try to gain admission into Siam with our Burmese Subjects, or under

Treaty.

Officers see that the road by which the Merchant desires to go is not proper, and fear that Thieves or Robbers may attack him, and break and destroy the friendship between the Two Countries, in consequence of this Merchant not seeking good. If the Merchant do not hear what the Officers say, and insist upon going, the Officers shall not permit him to go. If a Siamese Merchant desire to go and trade in an English Country, where it has not been the Custom to go and trade, then he shall go first and ask the Governor of the Country, and follow in the same manner whatever the Governor may decide and approve in every matter.

These Ten Articles of a Treaty let the great and small Officers of the English and Siamese, and every great and small Province obey as the Articles of a Treaty. Thus.

Translated literally from the Siamese.

(Signed) H. BURNEY
Captain.
Envoy to the Court of Siam.

Notes.

pretence of being such. The Prah Klang ridiculed the idea of Merchants travelling to Bangkok overland from our Burmese Possessions, because as he said, there are no Elephants in those Countries. I assured the Ministers that the British Government anticipated a very beneficial Trade would soon arise between the Siamese Dominions and our Conquests on the Coast of Tenasserim. I pressed for the introduction, into the Minister's Draft, of the 8th Article of my Draft, stipulating for every facility and freedom being afforded to the Trade between Penang, Malacca, and Singapore, and all the adjacent Siamese States; and I succeeded at length in persuading them to agree to it, with this alteration, that British Subjects, not being a Burmese, Peguer or Descendants of a European shall be permitted to travel overland and by means of the numerous Rivers into the interior of all the Siamese States, without any obstruction upon condition however (a condition which the Rajah of Ligor suggested to the Ministers) that if our Subjects attempt to convey opium into the interior, the opium shall be seized and forfeited. The Original Siamese mentions, that "Khek" and "Chin"

Notes.

or Chinese only shall be allowed to travel into the interior of the Siamese Territories from our Possessions on the Coast of Tenasserim and to the Eastward. "Khek" is literally a Foreigner; but it is a term applied to Malays and Natives of Hindostan, who are not descendants of Europeans; for which last as well as for Burmese, Peguers, Chinese, Europeans and Americans, specific denominations are used. I have therefore translated "Khek" and "Chin" into British Subjects, not being a Burmese, Peguer or Descendants of a European.

I have suggested for the consideration and future determination of the Ministers, two Propositions, 1st, That His Majesty the King of Siam should engage to set at liberty the family and friends of the Ex-King of Queda, to place a Malayan Chief over the Kingdom of Queda, and to withdraw the Siamese Troops and Subjects from it, and to restore the former friendly relations between Queda and Penang, admitting particularly of a free and unrestricted Export of Supplies from the former to the latter. 2ndly, That the British Government should engage not to interfere with the Kingdom of Queda, nor permit the Ex-King or any of his Followers to do so. Pya Kray surprized me by showing himself to be well acquainted with the conduct of our Ally, who had, contrary to the Stipulations of his Treaty with the British Government, latterly charged a Duty of 16 Dollars per Coyan upon the Export of Rice from Queda to Penang.

(Signed) H. BURNEY Captain
Envoy to the Court of Siam.

ORDERED that Copies be prepared for transmission to the Supreme Government by the next opportunity.

Printed for private circulation.

THE

BURNEY PAPERS

III.

(May to September 1826)

Printed by order of the Vajirañāṇa National Library.

BANGKOK

1910.

NOTE.

Whilst this volume was in the press, information was received from the India Office that a further instalment of the Burney Papers was forthcoming. There will therefore be a fourth volume which is hoped to be issued shortly.

The present volume consists of (*a*) the continuation of Captain Burney's Journal, (*b*) various letters and other documents bearing on Captain Burney's Mission, almost all of which are of interest and worthy of careful perusal.

Erratum—On the last line of page 338, for Mekong read Meklong.

Factory Records, Straits Settlements, Vol. 138, pp. 101-189.

FORT CORNWALLIS the 20 : September 1826.

AT A COUNCIL Present
THE HONORABLE ROBERT FULLERTON
Governor President
and
ROBERT IBBETSON Esquire.

READ and APPROVED the PROCEEDINGS of the 7th Instant.

READ the following letter from Captain Burney Envoy to Siam, with a Continuation of his Journal from the 19 : May to the 9 : Instant, and a Treaty.

ENVOY TO SIAM.

H. C. Hired Brig Guardian
9th September 1826, off P. W. Island.

To

THE HONBLE. R. FULLERTON ESQUIRE
Governor &ca. &ca. &ca. of P. W. Island

ENVOY TO SIAM 9: September 1826.

HONBLE. SIR,

I do myself the honor to report to you my arrival at this Presidency, and to submit to you, enclosed, the continuation of my Journal from the 19th of May to the present date.

I have &ca.

(Signed) H. BURNEY Captain
Late Envoy to the Court of Siam.

CONTINUATION OF CAPTAIN BURNEY'S JOURNAL from the 19th of May to the 9th September 1826.

185. On the 19th we paid a visit to Pya Kray, the Wangna's Prah Klang, who assured me in the strongest terms, that he had not detained a single Burmese prisoner at Chimpohun, excepting the 37 who were unable to travel from old age and sickness, and that he knew of none besides the 237 for whom he had accounted in the list which the Prah Klang had delivered to me from him. He admitted that he was wrong in having neglected to write to Mr Maingy by the prisoners to inform him of their number and of the mode in which they had been sent back. Pya Kray is about 46 years of age, and he proved by his intelligence and courtesy, that he has not lived in Siam all his life.

186. On the 21: Pya Thep called upon me accompanied by 50 or 60 Peguers, to apprise me that His Majesty had given orders for the release of every Peguer who had been brought away from the Martaban and Yé districts subsequent to their occupation by us.

187 On the 26: we paid a visit to Pya Maha Yothia, who was surrounded by much more Military state than any Chief we had yet seen. He received us with a politeness and Military frankness that pleased us much. I strove without success, to discover the real motives of his not having joined us at Martaban, and of his sudden retreat last year from the vicinity of that Town. He said, that whilst advancing this year he had received a communication from our Officers at Martaban requesting him to suspend his march, and that a severe illness had occasioned his return to the Capital last year. To draw him out I observed, that had he advanced and joined us at

Martaban, he would now most probably have been at the head of Pegue. He took no notice of this observation but upon my enquiry, he assured me that no branch of the antient Pegue Royal race now exists, that his father had been a Governor of Martaban under the Pegue Dynasty, and that when the Burmese overthrew it, his Father had lived at Martaban for some time as a private Individual and had afterwards retired to Siam with his family: Maha Yothia was then only 13 years of age, and he is now upwards of 60. He declared that his father was in no manner related to the antient Pegue Royal Race, but that from his own large family, numerous connexions and distinguished services against Ava, all the Peguers now looked up to him as the remaining head of their race. He said he had 40 Children, of whom 12 Sons and 8 Daughters are now living. The appearance and manners of this veteran Chief shewed him to be worthy of the high character which he bears. He has a defect in one of his eyes, and his style of speaking is very different from that of a Siamese, being extremely lively and animated. His whole appearance reminded Captain Macfarquhar much of the late Sir David Ochterlony. To shew however the distrust with which the Court of Siam treats this highly respectable old Chief, I must state, that some Peguers who came to me the following day, assured me, that Pya Kray and Pya Thep had been secreted, during the whole time of our conference, in a small room adjoining Maha Yothia's Hall of audience.

188. In the evening of the 26th we again met the Ministers of Siam at the Palace of Krom Meun Surin, and were detained until 3 o'clock in the morning. After much discussion and altercation, I found I should not be justified in a perseverance to effect the removal of the Siamese from the territories of Kedah. My own belief was, that if I had broken up the conference and prepared to quit the country, the Court would have yielded the point rather than have permitted

me to depart. But in this belief I might have been wrong, and unless my instructions had expressly authorized me to risk so much, I conceived I should not be saved from the very great responsibility and censure, which would attend any issue contrary to that which I might believe would occur. The subject had caused me unceasing meditation for many days, and I saw that even if I carried the question of Kedah against the strong feeling of this Court, I should leave it so discontented and dissatisfied with the British Government, that our Merchants would not long or effectually derive any advantage from the other stipulations, into which the Court might be persuaded to enter, in favor of a greater freedom of Trade and intercourse at Bangkok. The Supreme Government in the Dispatch to the Government of Prince of Wales Island of the 13th May 1825 admitted " We do not very clearly perceive how the Government of Siam and the Rajah of Ligore will ever be persuaded to forego the profit, which it seems they derive from the direct occupation of Kedah, unless we are prepared to tender Tavoy or Mergui as an inducement." The same dispatch declared—" We are not prepared to hold out to the Siamese any distinct expectation of our ceding to them the Provinces of Tavoy or Mergui," without which caution even, I had seen too much of the inhuman treatment of the Siamese towards the Burmese prisoners of Mergui, to think for a moment of delivering the rest of the inhabitants of Tavoy and Mergui into the power of Siam. Possessing therefore no equivalent to offer to the Ministers in lieu of Kedah, I was obliged to propose that the British Government should permit a Siamese Governor to remain in Kedah, and should prevent the Ex-King or any of his followers from disturbing that Country upon the following conditions, vizt. that the whole of the family and personal servants of the Ex-King should be liberated and sent to Penang, that the inhabi ts of Kedah should receive proper treatnent—that t ade

and intercourse between Penang and Kedah should be unrestricted—that no duty or other charge should be levied in Kedah upon the exportation of Supplies for the use of the inhabitants of Penang and of shipping there, and that in lieu of the present mischievous system of farming out the different rivers of Kedah, the Siamese should levy fair export and import duties upon the transit of Merchandize. The views and feelings of the Court seemed to me so decided against foregoing the profit which it derives from the direct occupation of Kedah, that I saw if I pressed the Ministers to engage to appoint a Malayan Governor over Kedah, they would select some person like the late Chief of Purlies, Keadaon,* to be a mere tool in the hands of the Rajah of Ligore, and such a character would be more afraid to cultivate intimate relations with Penang than a regular Siamese Governor, and would often, to prove the sincerity of his devotion to Siam, act in a more unfriendly manner towards British Subjects, than what the occasion might require. Independent also of my own doubts as to the policy of such a measure, I saw that it would be in vain to apply to the Ministers for a cession of the additional tract of territory on the Coast of Kedah, suggested by Mr. Crawford in his "Notes towards a Treaty". I had desired to wait for a reply to the reference which I made to Mr. Secretary Swinton on the 31: March, before I relinquished the cause of the Ex-King of Kedah, but I learnt from Mr. Leal, that he had met the party to which my dispatch was entrusted at Ratphri, so late as on the 5: of last month, and that at the rate at which they were travelling towards Martaban, he did not expect they would reach that place before the expiration of the period at which I had calculated upon receiving a reply from Bengal.

* The duplicate copy has, "Purlis, Sultan Headeon."

189. The condition respecting a free transportation of supplies from Kedah to Penang was opposed by the Rajah of Ligore and the Prah Klang, who

called upon the Rajah of Singora to assure me, that the Ex King had for many years levied a duty of 16 Dollars per Coyan upon Grain and who declared, that they could not believe it possible that the Government of Prince of Wales Island would have so long allowed the Ex King to levy such a duty, if the Treaty between him and the British Government had engaged him against such a proceeding. I thought it right to press this point, as the duty of 16 Dollars per Coyan appeared to me most exorbitant, and as an unrestricted importation of supplies from Kedah to Penang is adduced as one of the principal motives for our desiring the restoration of the Malayan Government in Kedah. On the next day I sent the Rajah of Ligore a copy of our Treaty with Kedah, in order that he might examine the 3d Article and be satisfied that the Ex King was not warranted in levying any duty or custom upon any kind of provisions exported for the use of Penang or for the use of Ships of War and the Honble. Company's Ships.

190. I next called upon the Ministers to agree to a clause being inserted in the Treaty, engaging that letters addressed to British Subjects in Siam should not be opened. The Ministers objected for some time, upon the ground that the Burmese might send to Siam incendiary letters from Ava through our possessions on the Coast of Tenasserim, and that such mischievous letters might even be put under a cover bearing a superscription in the English language. At length they consented that all letters in the English language written to, or by British subjects in the territories of Siam, should be opened by the party to whom they might be addressed and by no other person.

191. I endeavoured to discover the real sentiments of the Ministers respecting the 10: Article of our Treaty with Ava, which engages, that His

Majesty of Siam also should be included in the Treaty of Peace. I said that it was necessary for the British Government to be early apprised, whether the King of Siam proposed to avail himself of the benefits of the Peace thus secured, and pointing out the very great advantage to Siam of such an Article, I declared that if His Majesty intended to avail himself of it, he must give orders to the Siamese Officers and the Guard on the frontiers to refrain from making incursions into any part of the Burmese territories or from committing aggressions of any description. I used, without success, much exertion to bring the Ministers to give me some positive and decisive opinions respecting this Article of our Treaty. They confined themselves to general and vague expressions, requesting me not to mind this matter, and stating that there is no occasion for the British Government to give itself any trouble about it. I perceived that the Ministers place no faith whatever in the Article, and such is their inherent rancour and enmity against the Burmese, that they will not allow themselves to suppose the possibility even of any peace subsisting between Siam and Ava. I have reason to believe that the Court of Siam is disposed to avail itself of the opportunity which it conceives the reduction of the power and means of Ava in her late contest with us will afford, for attacking some part of the Burmese dominions most probably from Laos. As I have just heard also, that since the close of the War a party of Siamese entered the Burmese territories near Zittan, and brought away several Burmese to Siam, I would beg to suggest that the British Government should at once relieve itself from the burthen and risk of any engagement with Ava binding her against committing hostilities against Siam.

192. The Pra Klang, before separating, brought forward a proposition respecting Perak, requiring the British Government to engage that the Rajah

of Perak should send the Gold and Silver Flower to Siam—but I peremptorily and decidedly objected to listen for a moment to any proposition calculated to restore Siamese dominion over Perak

193. The death of the late King of Siam's Mother, a Princess at the advanced age of 90 years, has put a stop to all public business for some days. The principal Officers of the Court have entirely shaved their heads, and an order has been issued for the whole of the female population of Siam to do the same.

* The duplicate copy has "evening."

194. On the morning* of the 30: the Prah Klang sent me a message, inviting me to meet the Ministers again on the following evening, but at the same time stating, that unless I was prepared to cede Perak to the Siamese, there would be no use of my seeing the Ministers. This message was delivered to me in such a manner as to convince me that the Prah Klang had sent it for the purpose of intimidating me, and I therefore returned to it as decisive a reply as possible, declaring that if any Siamese visited Perak with a view of interfering with its Government, I should do my utmost to persuade the Rajah of Perak to hang him. On the next morning when I saw the Prah Klang he appeared unusually sullen and discontented, and charged me with having broken his heart by the reply which I had sent to his message. I observed that I conceived his communication as an attempt to bully me, that by such a course he would find he would never be able to make an impression upon an English Envoy, and that I would therefore advise him to refrain from it in future. He said that the Ministers had postponed our next conference until the evening of the 2: June.

195. On the 1: June I sent a message to the Rajah of Ligore urging him as a sincere well-wisher to

resign all thoughts of interfering in future with Perak. He replied that the Ministers were unwilling to relinquish the claims of Siam upon Perak, and that he himself had no particular wishes on the subject, to prove which he would not attend our next conference with the Ministers.

196. On the evening of the 2: June we again proceeded to the palace of Krom Meun Surin where we met the same Officers as before with the exception of the Rajah of Ligore. The Prah Klang began the discussion by calling upon me to make some concession to Siam with respect to Perak. He produced the provisional Treaty between the Rajah of Ligore and myself, and had most of the Articles read out. I observed that if the Rajah of Perak had sent the *Boonga Mas* to Siam in former times or that if he wished even now to send that token of respect to Siam, the British Government would not think of forbidding him. But that since my arrival in Siam I had discovered, that the attack which the Rajah of Kedah had made upon Perak by orders from Siam, was one of the most wanton and unjustifiable acts I had ever heard of, and that Mr. Anderson, the Gentleman who had been deputed last year to Perak and Salengore, had satisfactorily ascertained, that the Rajah of Perak had no desire whatever of sending the *Boonga Mas* to Siam, or of continuing any relation with the Rajah of Ligore. When this last fact was doubted, I produced the letters which Luang Packdee Sombat wrote to Perak by order of the Rajah of Ligore and after explaining them I enquired whether the Rajah of Perak, if he had desired to live under Siam, would ever have delivered letters of such a tenor as these were to the British Agent? I commented on the impertinent language of these documents, and upon the improper conduct of the Rajah of Ligore in sending such letters to Perak after he had concluded the Provisional Treaty with me

These letters I saw, produced a great impression upon the Prince and Ministers. They asked me if we possessed the originals, and upon my answering in the negative, the Prince and Ministers recovered themselves, and when they further learnt that the letters were in the Malayan language, they declared, that they had no doubt, the translations were incorrect, and that the phrases used in them were evidently not Siamese. Finding he could not make me yield on the subject of Perak, the Prah Klang then referred to the States of Tringano and Calantan, informing me, that the King requested I would either agree to the Article which the Ministers had proposed on the 16: May, or modify that which I had proposed in such a manner as to render it more precise. After much discussion, I proposed that the Siamese should engage not to go and interrupt British Commerce with Tringano and Calantan, that British Subjects should trade with these States in future in the same manner as they have hitherto done, and that the British Government should not attack or molest those States. The Ministers after some consideration, agreed to this Article, and as it engages that the Siamese should give no interruption to our Commerce, the principal object for which we deprecate the direct occupation of the States by Siam, and as it further does not pledge the British Government in any manner on the question of their continuing to send the *Boonga Mas* to Siam, I hope my superiors will consider the terms of this Article as more advantageous and prudent even than those of the article which I proposed to the Ministers on the 14: May. The Prah Klang complaining of being unwell, we then at 1 o'clock in the morning returned home.

197. On the 5: of June I had an opportunity of forwarding letters to Captain Fenwick at Martaban and to Mr. Maingy at Tavoy, by some Burmese returning to those places.

198. On the 6: we had another conference with the Ministers at the Palace of Krom Meun Surin. The Rajah of Ligore was present, and used much exertion to effect some settlement respecting the affairs of Kedah. He proposed that the Ex King should be removed from Penang, and not be allowed to reside at Prye in Provice Wellesley, or in Perah, Salengore or any Burmese territory, and that the Government of Prince of Wales Island should not prevent from returning to Kedah, any of the inhabitants of Kedah who might desire to do so. I said, that if the Ministers agreed to the conditions which I had proposed respecting Kedah on the evening of the 26: Ultimo, I should have no objection to accede to the propositions which the Rajah of Ligore now brought forward—with exception, however, that instead of the phrase, that the Ex King of Kedah should be removed from Penang, the expression should be, that arrangements should be made by the British Government for His Highness's residence in some other territory. I pointed out that the former phrase would be wholly inconsistent with the good will which the British Government must ever entertain towards an old Ally, and particularly when he is in distress. I admitted however that so long as the Ex King remained at Penang, in the immediate vicinity of Kedah, it will be impossible for himself or his adherents to refrain from disturbing or interfering with the Siamese who are in possession of their country. The Ministers agreed to all the conditions which I proposed respecting Kedah, with the exception of that requiring a free exportation of Grain to Penang. The Prah Klang proposed to engage, that whatever Rice or Paddy the Honble. the Governor of Prince of Wales Island might require from Kedah for his own personal use, should be sent free from duty, upon a written application from him. We laughed much at this proposition which was so highly characteristic of the mind and character

of the Prah Klang. We could not make him comprehend, that English Governors are neither willing nor authorized to avail themselves of such exclusive privileges, and that it is their custom to seek to relieve those under them in preference to themselves, who can better afford to pay for whatever they require.

199. He then brought forward an Article proposing that the British Government should not prevent the Rajah of Perah from sending the *Boonga Mas* to Siam, or the Rajah of Ligore from sending any of his followers to Perak in a *proper manner*, that both the Siamese and English should engage not to send any Armament to Perak, and that the British Government should engage to prevent Salengore from interfering with Perak. Prince Krom Meun Surin and the Ministers would not credit that the Rajah of Perah is unwilling to maintain his connexion with the Rajah of Ligore, and they observed that our late Treaty with Perak contains nothing to warrant such a belief, asking me particularly whether the British Government had assured Perah of liberation from Siamese claims. The Prince and Ministers appeared to me also to desire to possess some salve to their pride in the event of Perah being really unwilling to be connected with Siam, and I saw that they were anxious, if they are obliged hereafter to relinquish their claims upon Perak, that such a result should appear to be brought about in any other mode than by regular stipulations in a Treaty. The Ministers explained the words in a *proper manner*, to mean any deputation which the Rajah of Ligore may desire to send to Perak, with friendly intentions, for the purpose of persuading the Rajah of Perah not to break off his connexion with Siam. After several hours very warm discussion, I proposed that to the above Article should be added, that the Rajah of Perah, should govern his country according to his own

pleasure, that the Rajah of Ligore should be restricted from sending more than 40 or 50 Men to Perak, and that the Siamese should not interfere with Salengore. I said if the Ministers would agree to the whole of the conditions which I had proposed on the 26: Ultimo, respecting Kedah and if they would agree to an Article that British Vessels coming to Bangkok should be charged only 1500 Ticals for every fathom of breadth in lieu of every other duty, and that no kind of duty should be charged upon the people who bought or sold from or to the English Merchants, I would consent to the Prah Klang's Article respecting Perah, with the modifications above mentioned. The Prah Klang refused to engage, that no duties should be charged upon the buyers or sellers from or to English Merchants, and I could not make him acknowledge, that to charge the home Merchant additional duties upon his transactions with the English Merchant was precisely the same thing as charging them to the English Merchant himself, upon whose sales and purchases these additional duties would ultimately fall. The Prah Klang declared the loss to the King of Siam by such an arrangement as that which I proposed, with respect to the duties upon English Ships would be very great, and he would not hear of any explanation. The Prince Krom Meun Soorin himself two or three times asked him to point out what he thought would be a sufficient sum, but the Minister was in too bad a humour to bear any discussion on the subject. He proved to me clearly that he had been secretly hoping throughout my conversation with him respecting the duties, to elude our vigilance, and to secure to himself the power of charging the home Merchant as well as the English trader. I requested leave then to retire from the conference, stating that it would be idle to talk of making any Treaty at present. We returned home about 2 o'clock in the morning.

200. On the 8th the Prah Klang proceeded to Paknam to dismiss finally the Cochin Chinese Envoy. I have reason to know that the sole motive of this Mission from Cochin China was to ascertain the objects of the British Mission. The Envoy brought only one shipwrecked Siamese with him and used every exertion in his power to be allowed to visit Bangkok, beseeching the Siamese in vain to be permitted to come to the Capital, among other reasons for the purpose only of finding a sale for a quantity of Shamshoo, which he had brought with him as private trade.

201. On the 9th the Raja of Ligore sent me a message stating that the King had ordered the Prah Klang not to remain at Paknam for more than two days, and advising me on his return to call upon him and request another conference with the Ministers. The Raja assured me further that the King was really well disposed towards us, and that His Majesty had determined upon ceding the two points respecting the duties upon grain at Kedah and the duties upon British Shipping at Bangkok in the manner I proposed.

202. On the 14: I called upon the Prah Klang and arranged that I should have another conference with the Ministers on the evening of the 16th.

203. On the 15th the Rajah of Ligore sent me a message, entreating me to soothe and flatter the the Prince and Ministers as much as possible, at our next meeting, and advising me to address them myself in the Siamese language as often as possible. He stated that they are much pleased to hear my attempts to speak their language and that nothing but a few compliments and a little soft language were now necessary from me to secure all that I desired.

204. On the evening of the 16: we proceeded to the Palace of Krom Meun Soorin at the usual hour and met the same Ministers and Officers as before. I followed the advice of the Rajah of Ligore and addressed the Prince and Ministers in the Siamese language as much, and as well as I could. I paid the handsomest compliments to the Prince, whose conduct during the whole of our conferences really deserves every praise and gratitude from me, and who, we were happy to see, accepted my compliments and seemed much pleased with them. I pointed out the advantages and benefits which would be secured to both nations by our now concluding a fair and regular Treaty of Peace and Commerce, and the riches and happiness that would flow to the subjects of both nations by the establishment of a free and unrestricted trade at Bangkok. I entered into calculations to prove that my plan of fixing a moderate consolidated duty upon our Shipping, in lieu of the present numerous and vexatious duties, would ultimately prove most profitable to Siam, as it would greatly increase the resort of our Shipping to Bangkok. I shewed that by the present system only 2 or 3 Ships visited Bangkok during the year, but that the plan I proposed would invite at least 10 Ships a year, and I asked the Phra Klang, whether 10 Ships at 1500 Ticals for each fathom of breadth or 6000 Ticals each, would not pay a much larger revenue than 3 Ships at even 12,000 Ticals each. I took an opportunity of extolling the virtues and enlightened character of the present Monarch of Siam. My address appeared to soften even the Phra Klang, who observed that it was a pleasure to hear me speak, but declared that 1,500 Ticals per fathom would be too great a reduction of the duties—that I calculated the revenue now derived from English Ships only, but that my plan proposed to include Native Vessels under English Colours, and that it would cut off a very large profit which the Siamese now derived from the two Surat Vessels that

annually visit Bangkok. * The truth is nothing can be more iniquitous than the conduct of the Siamese towards these Surat Vessels. The Phra Klang and his Officers fix the price of every article of Merchandize brought by those Vessels, and take and distribute among themselves whatever portion of the Cargoes they please, for the purpose of retailing the same afterwards at a profit to themselves, and to this extraordinary source of profit, which is in addition to the usual port charges and Import and Export duties the Phra Klang was now referring, I was afraid to trust myself into any discussion of such a nefarious system and therefore again urged the Prince and Ministers in general terms *. I at length brought the Phra Klang to agree, that Vessels under English Colours, if they visit Bangkok with an Import Cargo, shall pay 1,700 Ticals for each fathom of breadth, and if without an Import Cargo, only 1,500 Ticals, that these sums shall be in lieu of every other charge, and that no Import, Export or other duty shall be levied upon the buyer or Seller from or to English Merchants.

* 150 Cattles of Silver from each.

* "to consent to my plan. After an altercation of two hours," in Dup: Copy.

205. The free importation of Grain from Kedah to Penang was then discussed; the Phra Klang proposed that the present duty should be reduced to 8 Ticals per Coyan upon Rice and 4 Ticals upon Paddy. But I thought it most advisable to try and secure an entire freedom to the importation of supplies to Penang. The Rajah of Ligor proposed, and I at length consented, that in the event of the Rajah of Kedah remaining at Penang, and of our not making arrangements for his removal to some other territory, the present export duty upon grain should continue to be levied at Kedah, but not otherwise, and that at any rate, no duties or restrictions should be given to the exportation from Kedah of Poultry, Cattle and other stock.

206. The Ministers then produced a paper containing the forms and regulations to be observed by British Vessels and subjects visiting Bangkok, proposing to annex a Copy of the same to the Treaty. Most of these were included in the Schedule annexed to the Draft of the Treaty which I had tendered, and were no more than the established regulations of the Port. There were some additional clauses—one requiring that Guns and Warlike stores should be tendered for purchase to the King only, and if rejected by His Majesty should not be sold to private individuals, but be re-exported, to which I agreed. Another that Rice and Paddy should not be purchased for the purpose of being exported as merchandize, and to this also I agreed when the Phra Klang assured me that of course in seasons of plenty if British Merchants applied to export Grain, they should receive permission to do so. There was another additional clause, which excited much difference of opinion between us. It proposed to render all British Subjects, without exception, liable to capital punishment and whipping; for the commission of any offences with respect to which the laws of Siam have prescribed such punishments. I pointed out that British subjects are entirely ignorant of the laws of Siam and possess no means of acquiring a knowledge of them, that it would be much better to express in this clause for what offences they should suffer death—and that it was not our custom to whip Commanders of Ships, their Officers or Merchants, but to punish them by levying a pecuniary fine upon them. The Ministers, after some arguments, agreed to state in the clause, that murder should be punished by death, and that for disrespect to Siamese Officers or other Offences, if the party were a Commander or Officer of a Ship, or Merchant, he should be fined, and if a Seaman, Lascar or subordinate character he should be whipped or imprisoned in such manner as the laws of Siam

might direct. The Phra Klang then said, that the clause did not provide for one offence, which in the eyes of a Siamese is of much greater magnitude than even murder, speaking disrespectfully of His Majesty the King of Siam, a crime which is invariably punished with death. I said that I did not possess the power of engaging that British Subjects should be liable to capital punishment for such an offence, and that I thought it was improper to suppose for a moment, that any person could speak disrespectfully of so great and enlightened a prince as the present Monarch of Siam. It was finally settled that the Right Honble. the Governor General should particularly forbid British subjects who might visit Siam showing disrespect in any manner to the great Officers of Siam. I beg to refer here to the account given by Captain Hamilton of his narrow escape from a charge of having only said, that "the King of Siam had been imposed upon". The Phra Klang declared, that as the Treaty engages that British subjects should be allowed to buy and sell freely, there would be no objection to their sending Natives of the Country to the Sugar Districts for the purpose of procuring Sugar, and that hereafter when the new relations between the Siamese and English became well established, British subjects could be allowed to engage in Ship building at Bangkok. He declined to mention these points in the Treaty, and I did not conceive it necessary to insist upon their being included. But my principal attention was directed to endeavour to render the terms of the paper of forms and regulations produced by the Ministers, as clear and precise as possible and the little knowledge even which I have acquired in reading and writing the Siamese language was of the utmost service, for I found I could not depend implicitly upon the translations of either my own or the Court Interpreters.

207. We then agreed that the Treaty should be written out in three columns in the Siamese Malayan and English languages and should be sealed with the Seals of the Ministers and mine, that one copy should be given to me for the purpose of being conveyed to Bengal aud another Copy with the King of Siam's Seal, should be entrusted to the Rajah of Ligore that upon my obtaining the ratification of the Treaty by the Right Honble. the Governor General in Council, I should return to Kedah within five months, and exchange the ratification with the Rajah of Ligore's Son Phra Phakdi Boree Rak,* to whom the Rajah of Ligor should forward the Copy bearing the Royal Seal, and lastly that the Rajah of Ligor should release the family and servants of the Ex-King of Kedah upon his arrival at Ligor. The Prince declared that hereafter when the present Treaty was ratified by both parties, the King of Siam would depute a complimentary Mission to the Right Honble. the Governor General. We then returned home at 4 o'clock in the morning, much exhausted by this long and most fatiguing conference.

*"Prah Phak Boree Pak" in dup: copy.

208. I have been too much engaged to record the discussions which have passed between the Ministers and myself respecting the release and return of the Pegu inhabitants, whom Maha Yotha and his Officers seized and brought away from the Province of Martaban in the beginning of last year. But it would be most irksome to relate the anxiety, vexation and trouble which this subject has cost us. It was on the 21 : of last month that Phya Thep came and informed me that the King had ordered the whole of those prisoners to be released, and since that date, not a day has passed without my being obliged to enter into some altercation on this subject with the Siamese Officers. Adverting to the approaching rainy season, and the increased force of the current running down the Mekong river, and referring to the small size of

the Boats which can navigate that stream, and the great proportion of women and little children, I found I could not attempt to send these prisoners to Captain Fenwick viâ Menamnoi. Upon applying to the Phra Klang to assist me to send them viâ Bangnarom and Mergui, in the same manner as the former prisoners had returned, he complained of the difficulty of procuring Junks. I was obliged one evening before Prince Krom Meun Soorin and the Ministers, to tell a tale that covered the Phra Klang's department with much shame, and urged the King, when he heard of it, to order that Junks should be provided at his expence. I asked the Ministers to order Junks to be provided for these prisoners, and said that although as the Siamese had brought these men to Bangkok, they ought to bear the expence of returning them, still, rather than that this should be any difficulty, I was willing to defray the expence out of the monthly allowance which the King and Wangna had ordered to be made to me. This observation produced a disclosure that the Phra Klang's department had brought * the allowance from the King for only 2 months, and from the Wangna for only one month. On the day following, there was a great stir in the Phra Klang's Office, and I had sent to me 960 Ticals as 4 months allowance from the King and 700 as 5 months allowance from the Wangna. I was further told, that the Phra Klang would provide whatever number of Junks I required on account of the Pegu prisoners. I strove much to obtain the immediate release of the 6 Native Christian prisoners mentioned in par: 169 of the Journal in order that the Peguers might be sent to Mergui under their charge. I was told that the King had ordered these Christians to be released and I was positively promised that they should be forthwith delivered to me. But two or three days after, I learnt that the Wang-na had sent three of them into the interior to examine some mines lately discovered near Menam noi, and had put the remaining two in irons,

* "Me in" the duplicate copy.

on some frivolous charge of having seduced a Siamese Woman. I was forced into some very irritating and angry discussions on this subject with the Ministers, who declared that they would not consent to allow these Christians to proceed overland to Mergui, but assured me most solemnly, that they should be released and delivered to me before I departed from Bangkok. I am sorry to say, that the second King or Wangna is by no means deserving of the character which was given to me of him upon our first arrival and which I have mentioned in para: 36 of this Journal. I have reason to believe him unusually ignorant for even a Siamese and by no means well disposed towards the English. He commanded in the attack of the Burmese in Junkceylon in 1810, and has seen some service in the direction of Cheung-mai, and he appears desirous of increasing his Military reputation in a contest with the British Government. He has treated the Burmese and Pegu prisoners with more inhumanity than any other Siamese Chief and he and his Officers have given me the most trouble to effect the release of those men who had been allotted to them. I regret extremely at not having obtained the release of the Native Christians, because I am unable to send Mr. Leal in charge of the Pegu prisoners to Mergui after the complaints which were brought against him on the last occasion, and I have no other person to send with them but a Native Christian Interpreter of the name of Benedick, a man of little intelligence or energy.

209. The Pegu Prisoners were daily brought in small parties and set adrift at the premises occupied by the Mission, and we have now for the last three weeks had an encampment around and under our house, crowded with men, women and children but particularly the two last. The prisoners appear to have been distributed throughout every

part of the Country, and from the day of their arrival at our house, we have been forced to subsist them. No correct account of their number appears ever to have been made by the Siamese. Phya Thep informed me last month that the Kalahom's Office had made out the following account.

Total number of prisoners brought away ...	792
Died since their arrival in Siam	57
	735
Desirous of remaining in Siam	116
Total to be delivered to the British Government ...	619

I requested to see every person represented in this list as desirous of remaining in Siam. Most of these prisoners appear to have been brought away from * Cocorat, a place which does not appear to be within the line of the territory ceded to us by the Burmese, and these last prisoners were carried up to Cheung-mai and thence brought down to Bangkok. Considering the routes by which these poor wretches were brought to Siam, and the number of Women and little Children, their removal must have been attended with a most cruel destruction of human lives. As another proof that the approach of the Siamese Detachments during the last year towards Martaban was guided by any other views than those of friendship towards us, I have discovered that not the smallest respect or attention was paid to the inhabitants even of those towns which were known to have been taken possession of by us. I possess a certificate in the Burmah language signed at "Martaban 15: March 1825" by "G. Norman Captain", which had been given to the Chief of Cocorat, but which did not protect him or any of his

* There is apparently a line left out here, as the dup: copy adds, "Wagum and Zara, two places apparently close to Martaban, some were carried away from"

townsmen from being carried away by the Siamese. The poor Chief died during his journey to Siam.

210. On the 19th ten small Junks and the provisions for the use of the Martaban prisoners being ready, Phya Thep called to make arrangements for embarking and forwarding them to Bangnarom. In consequence of the tedious and vexatious delays of the Siamese Officers I regret to say that the rains will now set in before these Captives can reach Mergui, but they all prefer encountering the inclemencies of the weather to remaining in Siam. I have prepared a letter No. 34 to the address of the Civil Officer in charge of Mergui, and have endeavoured to provide everything in my power to reduce the sufferings of these prisoners during their journey across the country. I have prepared also a Dispatch No. 35 to the address of Mr. Secretary Swinton at Fort William to be forwarded through Mr. Maingy the Civil Commissioner of Tavoy and Mergui, giving cover to a copy of the continuation of my Journal from the 1st of April to the present date.

211. In the afternoon of the 19: June I called upon the Phra Klang at his request, and discovered that a new difficulty had arisen with respect to the conclusion of the Treaty, a difficulty which I had before flattered myself I had very easily overcome. The Prah Klang. said, that as the name of his sovereign was inserted in the Treaty, he must insist upon the name of His Majesty the King of England being included, and that the Treaty should be between the King of England as well as between the East India Company and the King of Siam. I explained that I had not been deputed to Siam by my Sovereign and therefore possessed no power to make a Treaty in his royal name, that the East India Company govern British India under the authority of the King and Parliament of England,

and that all wars negotiations and Treaties in India are conducted in the name of the East India Company, and that I thought the difficulty started by the Phra Klang would be easily solved by the Treaty declaring that it is made between the King of Siam and the Honble. East India Company who govern British India under the authority of the King and Parliament of England. This arrangement would not satisfy the Phra Klang, and he occupied me several hours in trying to make him comprehend the nature and form of the British Constitution, the powers and duties of the King and Parliament and of the East India Company. The Minister put the most frivolous and absurd questions to me, asking in what manner of houses the King, Parliament and India Company resided, and what description of Carriages they severally used &c. With his usual arrogance and ignorance he plainly showed to me that he disbelieved my answers, and he could not possibly conceive how the King of England might not order any man he pleased to be executed or might not levy what monies he pleased upon the people of England. The Phra Klang in all his conversations with me never hesitates to let me see his belief that I am telling untruths, whenever I attempt to describe any thing of which he has never heard before. I therefore called immediately upon the Rajah of Ligor and repeated to him all that had passed between the Minister and myself. The Rajah of Ligor again proved to me how much superior he is in understanding and manners to any Chief here. He took down in writing all that I said, proposed sensible questions to complete his information and promised to explain the whole immediately to the King and Ministers

212. On the 20: I drew up in the Siamese language and sent to the Phra Klang as plain and simple an account as I possibly could of the British Constitution and of the relative powers and duties

of the King, Parliament and East India Company. I was obliged to use some caution in not stating in my account more than what the Siamese Court is capable of comprehending. On the same day, the Rajah of Ligor sent some of his Officers to put some very pertinent questions to me, and as these questions I was told, were proposed by the King of Siam himself, they served to prove his superior intelligence. Indeed, next to the Rajah of Ligore, I consider the King of Siam from all I have heard and seen of his Majesty, as the most intelligent man in his dominions and certainly as the person most desirous of establishing friendly relations between the Siamese and British Governments. His Majesty asked whether the Office of East India Director is hereditary, whether a Member of Parliament possesses any power individually or only when he is joined with the other Members and seated in Parliament, whether the East India Companyf pay any revenue or tribute to the King of England and whether the succession to the Crown is hereditary.

213. On the 22 : the Raja of Ligor sent some of his Officers to me with a request that I would consent to two additional articles being introduced into the Treaty—One, which I was told the King and Ministers had very much at heart was that in any future wars with the Burmese the British troops should be strictly prohibited against destroying and plundering the Temples and Religious edifices, and the other, that the Raja of Ligor should be allowed to purchase at Penang what Guns or Warlike Stores he might have occasion for. I was informed that the religion of the Siamese being the same as that of the Burmese, the former could not but view with the utmost horror the manner in which our Troops in Ava had conducted themselves towards the Temples and the Images contained in them. I desired the Rajah of Ligor's Officers to assure their Master, and

to beg of him to assure the King and Ministers, that the accounts that had been brought to them of the conduct of the Troops in Ava must have been greatly exaggerated, that it is, and has ever been the custom of the British Government in all its wars in India, to treat with every forbearance and liberality the Religion and religious edifices of the enemy and that to insert a clause respecting this matter in the Treaty, would not only be most unusual and unnecessary, but would tend to cast an unjust and improper reflection upon the conduct of the British Troops in Ava and of the British Government itself. With respect to the Second Article I said that of course now that intimate friendly relations would be established between the Siamese and English the Honble. the Governor of Penang would not prevent the Rajah of Ligor from supplying himself with any thing which he might require from that Settlement. I had hoped, until this moment, that I had succeeded in escaping from committing myself in any manner upon this question of the Siamese supplying themselves with Warlike Stores at our Settlements, a question which proved so troublesome to Mr. Crawfurd. But the Rajah of Ligor again pressed this point, and I then suggested that the additional article should be as follows, explaining at the same time that in my opinion there were great objections to any such stipulation being inserted in a Treaty of Friendship. "If the Raja of Ligor shall have occasion at any time to purchase Guns Shot or Gunpowder from Penang, he shall address an application to the Honble. the Governor of Penang, who will supply him with such stores in such proportions as may appear right and proper."

214. On the morning of the 24: I succeeded at length in dispatching the 10 Junks with the Burmese and Pegu prisoners. From the 19th I had been

scrutinizing Phya Thep and Phya Maha Yotha's lists, and endeavouring to force them to produce the whole of the captives. But I had to resist such evasions and falsehoods, and so many of the Officers of the Court were endeavouring to detain some of the prisoners that I could not succeed in despatching by this opportunity more than the following

Persons from Martaban District	630
Do. from Mergui who had been left sick ...	10
Men who returned from Mergui with Mr. Leal	3
Total	643

Although the Phra Klang engaged to provide the Prisoners with a suitable supply of provisions I found his allowance was so scanty that I was obliged to purchase and distribute an additional supply. Much delay and difficulty were also occasioned by the disputes between the Officers of Phra Klang's Department and the Owners of the ten Junks, respecting the hire of the Vessels, for which the former would not settle any reasonable price. To induce the Commanders of the Junks to depart before the rains I paid them 60 Ticals myself, I was obliged also to pay another sum of 136 Ticals, in order to liberate three whole families of Peguers whom Maha Yotha or some of his Servants had detained upon pretence of debt. A Peguer fled one day from Maha Yotha and besought my intercession with the Siamese Government, for his return also to Captain Fenwick. He declared that his name is Emmeh, and that he his wife and 5 Children whilst residing at Goh a village near Martaban the chief of which had an English protection, had been seized by some of the Siamese Detachment under Phya Ratnachak and brought away as prisoners to Siam. Upon interrogating Phya Ratnachak he stated that these seven persons belonged to Maha Oodina the Ex Governor of Martaban's party, that some

of the Siamese Detachment which was under Captain Fenwick at Martaban, had apprehended them and that Captain Fenwick had told him, Phya Ratnachak, to take these people away with him to Bangkok. I addressed a letter on the subject to the Siamese Ministers, avowing my disbelief of Phya Ratnachak's story, pointing out the improbability of any British Officer giving away seven persons to be made slaves in Siam, and claiming these people as British Subjects. It was several days before I could induce the Ministers to make a written reply to my application. At last on the 26th they authorized Phya Phiphut to send me a letter of which I annex a translation No. 36. Of the large number of Peguers reported to be desirous of remaining in Siam several, Phya Thep admitted, have changed their minds, and he engaged to deliver them to me as well as to produce the whole of the remainder before me, in order that I may personally ascertain their wishes. I hope before our departure to be able to dispatch to Mergui another party. I took copies of the passes which were given to the prisoners now forwarded from the departments of the Kalahom and Phra Klang. Phya Thep's Pass declares that these poor Pegu prisoners, who had been forcibly seized and most cruelly brought away to Bangkok came here to *seek* the Supreme and most felicitous King of Siam.

215. On the 25: June we called upon the Rajah of Ligor at his request and met Phya Phi-phut and all the Malayan Interpreters of the Court. The Siamese copy of the Treaty was read over and I saw that some explanatory passages which I had proposed two or three days before, the Ministers had adopted. They desired however to retain in the first article the concluding clause, which I had before understood they had agreed to expunge, viz. "that the Siamese shall settle in their own Country every matter they please according to their own custom." I said that such a clause was not necessary, as the British Government did not

* The duplicate copy has "fetter."

desire to flatter * the independence of Siam, but that if the Ministers desired to retain it I had no objection. The Ministers required some further information respecting one of the explanatory phrases which I had proposed. The original of the last Article of the Commercial part of the Treaty stated, that if a British subject killed a Siamese the punishment should be death. Although the laws of Siam are not like those of China, requiring blood for blood on every occasion, but fine a person for accidental homicide, still I feared the passage in the Treaty might be liable hereafter to misconstruction. I therefore proposed to substitute, that if a British subject killed a Siamese with evil intention, his punishment should be death. The Ministers conceived that I desired to prevent the Siamese Officers from even enquiring into the causes of accidental homicides, and when the Rajah of Ligor and Phya Phiphut understood that this was not the case, and found me willing to have it stated in the Treaty, that the Siamese Officers should investigate all cases of homicide, I was told that my proposed amendment would be acceded to by the Ministers. I was happy to find that the Ministers did not think it necessary, after the explanation which I had given on the 22nd to insert in the Treaty any clause respecting the Raja of Ligor's being supplied with Warlike Stores from Prince of Wales Island. I must beg to state however that my own observation here leads me to admit entirely the correctness of Mr. Crawfurd's opinions with respect to British Merchants supplying the Siamese with Warlike Stores. Our Merchants being prohibited from doing so, will not preclude the Siamese from obtaining whatever supplies they require, and will only throw into the hands of the Americans and of other Foreigners the means of deriving a greater commercial profit from, and becoming more welcome to, the Siamese, than our own Merchants. The Commanders of both of the American Vessels that we have seen here brought and sold fire arms and I found

such articles the most acceptable presents, which I could tender to all parties, from the King to the lowest officer. The preamble of the Treaty, I saw, had undergone some alteration in consequence of the late discussion respecting the Constitution of the East India Company. The alteration however is not material. It only gives the King of Siam one or two additional titles, and declares that his Majesty and the Wangna had ordered the Ministers to discuss and arrange with me, this Treaty with the Honble. East India Company, who govern British India under the authority of the King and Parliament of England and with the Right Honorable the Governor General in Council.

216. I had next a most troublesome task imposed upon me, to examine and scrutinize the Malayan version of the Treaty. I found several gross inaccuracies, and particularly in those articles which relate to Kedah and Perak. The Rajah of Ligor however allowed most of them to be corrected as I pointed out. I insisted upon the whole of the King and Wangna's Bali titles being put down in the same words, for the Malayan Interpreters made sad trash of them in their language, and one or two other Siamese words, the precise meaning of which these Interpreters would not give, were set down in the Siamese language in their Copy of the Treaty, which is in many places a spurious and Ligor dialect of the Malayan tongue, arising principally from the anxiety of the Translators to give a corresponding word for every word and for the component parts even of every derivative and compound word, in the Siamese original. At the instance of the Rajah I agreed also, that the period of five months in which I had engaged that I was to return to Kedah with the Governor General's ratification of the Treaty, should be changed to seven months, and that a clause should be added to the Treaty, engaging that the

Siamese stipulations with respect to Kedah and Perak should be fulfilled upon the return of the Raja of Ligor from Bangkok. His Highness will probably be detained some weeks after me, as he has now another affair upon his hands to have his eldest son appointed Phya of Merdelong in room of the present Phya, who has just arrived here, and who is said to be unfit for the office from old age and imbecility.

217. The Ministers having ordered the Raja of Ligor to superintend the preparation of the fair Copies of the Treaty, I have occasionally called upon His Highness and have been surprised to see the care and anxiety which he displays in having the documents written in the best style. But the Siamese cannot write well with ink.

218. From the middle of the month of May the Commander and Crew of the Mission Brig Guardian have been employed in receiving and stowing the different presents from the King and Officers, in return for those which we brought. Here again I had to encounter the imposition of the petty Officers of Government. The King's Merchants according to established custom were called upon to appraise the value of the presents brought by me, and their appraisement was so absurd, some of the most valuable articles being valued at one sixth of their cost, that I was obliged to declare to the Phra Klang, that whatever returns the King and Officers desired to make I was willing to receive, but that I would have nothing to say to any appraisement, nor would I condescend to regard these presents as a matter of traffic. This declaration shamed the Phra Klang to add to the value of our presents and to increase the amount of their returns. Next came the difficulty of ensuring the proper weight and quality of each article, and as the

best and indeed only means of overcoming this difficulty, I was induced to offer to the Commander of the Guardian the usual Commission of 2½ per cent upon the amount of the Goods, in order to engage him to examine and weigh the several articles brought on board. The same exertions to impose and to weary out patience which the Siamese Officers are accustomed to practice upon private Merchants who visit Bangkok were made in this case also. Day after day the same boats with bad sugar were brought to the Vessel, and declared to be other boats newly arrived from the Sugar districts and the most impudent attempts were made to induce Captain Sutherland to receive Sugar of an inferior quality, or with short weight. As I know that neither the King nor Wang-na was aware of these mal-practices, I preferred a complaint to the latter on one occasion through the Rajah of of Ligor, and the Officers were immediately ordered to take back some of the Articles and to bring others of a better quality. In consequence of these arrangements on our part I am happy to state there is every reason to believe that the produce of the Siamese presents will exceed the sum of 14,000 Rupees which I reported to the Supreme Government as the smallest return that would be made for the presents with which I was authorized to provide myself. The returns are made according to prescribed custom, in productions of the Country and the Phra Klang will supply me with a detailed list specifying the quantity given by each Member of the Court. The Commander of the Guardian reports the whole as follows:

	Peculs		Catties
Sugar	1065		22
		lbs.	
Aguila Wood ...	—	154	
Elephants Teeth ...	3		44
Sapan Wood ...	150		
Tin	82		29

219. I have had several discussions with the Phra Klang, Raja of Ligor and Phya Phiphut as to the propriety of the King of Siam answering himself the Governor General's letter. I declined at once, as Mr. Crawfurd did, to receive an answer from the Phra Klang and assuring them that all other Sovereigns in India wrote themselves to the Governor General, I pointed out that the letter which I had the honor to to deliver was one, which appeared to me above all letters to require an answer from the King of Siam himself as it tendered such personal compliments and congratulation to His Majesty upon his accession to the throne. On the 2nd July Phya Phiphut called upon me with the drafts of the replies which are proposed to be made to the letters, that I had brought from the Governor General to the King of Siam and from Mr. Secretary Swinton, the Honorable the Governor of Penang and Mr. Crawfurd to the Phra Klang. I was happy to find that I had succeeded in persuading the Court of the propriety of the King of Siam himself writing to the Governor General. The proposed letter from His Majesty appears to me unobjectionable, with exception of its being styled "a Mandate" in the same manner as the letters written by the Emperor of China to the King of England. I should not have succeeded and therefore did not attempt to make the King of Siam write to the Governor General as an equal or to deviate from the language invariably used in His Majesty's correspondence. His letter is accompanied by one addressed by the Phra Klang to the Governor General and I was assured that this is the established custom with respect to the correspondence of this Court with China and Cochin China. The King's letter is always accompanied by one from the Phra Klang, entering into such details as the Phra Klang is supposed to be better qualified than His Majesty to communicate. There are two other letters addressed to the Governor

* The dup. copy has "respecting"

General by the Phra Klang, reporting * the release upon my application of John Baptist Gabriel and the five Native Christians, and of the Burmese and Peguers brought away by the Siamese from the Provinces of Martaban, Tavoy and Mergui. Finding that I could not persuade Phya Phiphut of the propriety of the Phra Klang writing to the Secretary to Government only, I explained to him well, that the Governor General could not reply himself to the Minister's letters, but that his Lordship would direct the Secretary to Government to do so, and Phya Phiphut acknowledged that according to the terms of the Treaty which the English and Siamese are now about to conclude, both parties may follow their own customs, and neither can take offence at any thing which the other may do according to the established customs of his country. Some alterations were however made at my suggestion in the drafts of these letters and I was promised copies of the whole, upon receiving which I shall annex translations of them to this Journal.

220. On the 4: of July the Raja of Ligor sent to me the two Copies of the Treaty with the Siamese and Malayan versions transcribed. I now found myself in much embarassment as to the best course which I ought to pursue in preparing the English Translation. The whole of the Treaty had been discussed and originally written in the Siamese language, a language full of repetitions and pleonasms. Were I to make a translation of it with reference to the idioms of the English language, and such a translation as would bear the criticism of Europeans, I should have to retrench nearly one half of the original Siamese, and as this Court jealous and suspicious at all times, would I knew, submit my translation to its Interpreters, to the Portuguese Consul, or to any other persons who may hereafter visit the Country, any omission or reduction of

sentences in the English version would appear to have been made with some evil intention, and would tend to destroy the whole value of the Treaty. I had provided myself with Siamese and Portuguese versions of the public Letters which I brought, but the Court, notwithstanding, had other translations made here both in the Portuguese and Siamese languages. Whilst discussing the Treaty I attempted repeatedly to reduce the length of each Article, and often proposed, that instead of setting down that "the English shall not go and intrude" &c. &c. and then that "the Siamese shall not" &c. in the very same words, the Article should say at once "Neither the Siamese nor the English shall intrude" &c. But the Ministers objected decidedly to such a construction of the sentences stating that it was contrary to the Siamese custom and that it could not possibly render the meaning of the Articles so clear and precise as to put down separately what either party engaged. After some hesitation I determined at length upon annexing to the Treaty as literal a Translation as I possibly could make from the original Siamese, and although such Translation appear verbose and quaint, I hope my Superiors will consider my determination as judicious with reference to the peculiar character of this people, their jealousy at all times, but of late so much excited by our conquests in Ava, and by the mischievous reports of incendiaries, and their profound ignorance of all the principles of international law, and of the form even of drawing up a Treaty. Very few of the Siamese themselves comprehend the meaning of the Bali titles of the King and Wangna, but I made every enquiry from the most intelligent Officers, according to whose explanations I set down the English translations of the phrases at the head of the Treaty.

221. On the 10 July we were invited to meet the six Ministers and regularly seal the Treaty; it was

perhaps in my power to have delayed this act for several days, or until I received further instructions from Bengal, but the considerations which appeared to me to oppose any such delay were the following. The Siamese are so fickle and thoughtless, as well as procrastinating a race that the impression, which the success of our war against Ava had produced, is fast wearing away, and I saw that if I did not take immediate advantage of this impression, the expiration of a few more weeks would revive and strengthen the the opposition of the Phra Klang and of his party, would dissipate the fears of those Members of the Court who believe in the reports of our hostile intentions, and would preclude all chance of my bringing the Court of Siam to any adjustment of the points at issue between us. The Supreme Government also, I considered, would desire to possess as soon as possible some plan of settling our relations with Siam, and the plan comprised in the Treaty arranged between the Siamese Ministers and myself would perhaps set at rest the doubts which are entertained as to the policy of our retaining any possessions on the Coast of Tenasserim bordering on the Siamese dominions. I clearly saw that if I had quitted Bangkok without arranging some adjustment of the points at issue between the two Governments and removing the fears and mistrust of the Siamese Ministers, the present Mission would have placed our political and commercial relations with Siam upon a more unsettled and unsatisfactory footing than that on which it had found them. I may add here my own deliberate conviction that if the present Mission had not availed itself of the opportunity which was now afforded it, nothing short of declaration of war would have hereafter secured the objects which it has gained,

At 8 P. M. we proceeded to the Palace of Prince Krom Meun Surin, where Chao Phya Pholli-thep as well as the other five Ministers were assembled with

their large silken bags containing the Seals of their Offices. To the Chao Phya of Ligor the Prince allotted the task of applying the Seals which being cut in relief and used with paint could not make a good impression on English paper without its being previously moistened with water. The Raja took at least a quarter of an hour to make each impression, and it was ludicrous to observe the childish interest and delight with which most of the Siamese, and particularly the Phra Klang watched his progress and success. I omitted to notice before that the reason why the Ministers objected to furnish me at once with the Royal seal to the Treaty arose from the circumstance of the Portuguese Consul having arranged a Treaty with the Phra Klang, and forwarded to Goa six years ago without the slightest notice having ever been taken of the document by the Portuguese Government. I could not remove the doubts of the Ministers that the British Government of India might serve the present Treaty, in the same manner, and I was told that the King of Siam's Seal could not be put to the hazard of being treated with neglect or disrespect. After I had sealed and signed, I notified to the Ministers my intention of quitting the Country at the ensuing spring tides, and requested them to apply to His Majesty to grant me an audience of leave. This request was met by the Phra Klang by the old answer that Mr. Crawfurd had not an audience of leave and that it is not the custom for the King to grant one. I replied that Prince Krom Chiat had never told Mr. Crawfurd that it is not the custom for the King to grant an audience of leave to Foreign Ambassadors, but had on the contrary made many apologies to Mr. Crawfurd, explaining that family distress prevented His Majesty from giving that Gentleman another audience, and observed that as the public mind at Bangkok had been much unsettled from reports of the hostile intentions of the British

Government, and as a Treaty of Peace and Friendship had now been concluded between the two Nations, many important benefits would attend my taking a proper and public leave of His Majesty the King of Siam. The inhabitants of Siam would see me quit the Country in the most friendly manner and I should have an opportunity of being satisfied that His Majesty would confirm the Treaty which I had arranged with his Ministers. The Phra Klang said that the Ministers dared not submit my request to the King, as it was contrary to the customs of the Country, but after some discussion the Prince, with his usual politeness, agreed to represent the matter to his Majesty.

223. I am assured, that the Cochin Chinese Ambassadors never have more than one audience. Loubere speaks of an Ambassador receiving an audience of leave as a matter of course, but Tachard observes that it is not always granted The Portuguese Consul on his first visit from Macao, and the Netherlands Envoy from Java, both received audiences of leave from his late Majesty, and the ceremony I thought, was peculiarly called for in our case.

224. On the 14th July Phya Phiphut brought to me the Six Native Christians with a request from the Ministers that I should interrogate the parties and take with me only those who were desirous of quitting Siam. The following are the names of the Christians, John Baptist Gabriel, Michael James * Gabriel, Simon Michael, Ilario de Rozario and Joseph Ignacio. The last mentioned only having formed a connection at Bangkok expressed a desire to remain. The other five were delivered over to me and put on board the Guardian. At the same time Phya Phiphut delivered to me copies of the public letters from the King and Phra Klang and I annexed translations of

* "John" in the dup: copy.

the same: Nos. 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, and 45. With the assistance of the Siamese Moonshee and of a Siamese Dictionary and other grammatical works which I induced some of the Native Christians at Bangkok who joined to a thorough knowledge of the language some acquaintance with Latin, to compile for me I have made as literal translations as possible of the letter from the King of Siam and of the 1st letter accompanying it from the Phra Klang and as these translations will suffice to afford examples of the tautological structure and peculiar style of Siamese composition, I have translated the other letters more freely and in a less prolix and tiresome language. These letters show one thing clearly, that the King and Court of Siam are fully aware of the use and importance of the Treaty which they have concluded. I annex also a translation, No. 46, of a letter addressed by the Rajah of Ligor to the Honble. the Governor of Prince of Wales Island a copy of which His Highness furnished to me, and I take this opportunity of declaring that although the Rajah's personal interests led him to oppose me most strenuously upon the subject of the restoration of the King of Kedah, upon every other question I found him intelligent, ready to oblige and eminently useful. Indeed his feelings with respect to Kedah appeared to quicken his zeal and anxiety to oblige me on all other points and to urge him to prevent me from making an unfavourable report of his conduct to my Government. The Raja's Letter, which I did not see until after my departure from Bangkok, demonstrates his fears that the Government of Prince of Wales Island may anticipate him at Perak and foreclose his interference there, a measure which I do not conceive it will be difficult to execute, if the Raja and Chiefs of Perak are true only to themselves. But the Malay partizans of the Raja of Ligor at Perak assure his Highness that the Raja and principal Chiefs of that State are afraid of our encroachments as well

as of Salengore and that they really desire His Highness's protection. Indeed nothing that I could show or say at Bangkok was able to remove the impressions founded on the communications that had passed between the Raja and Chiefs of Perak and the Raja of Ligor.

225. On the same day Chao Pya Phra Klang applied to me for permission to send 4 or 5 of his followers with 200 Piculs of Sugar on board the Guardian, upon a Mercantile speculation, for the purpose of purchasing Emeralds and some other Articles at Calcutta. Although I foresaw many objections to my grantiug this request and although my private feelings were strongly against obliging the Minister still I conceived it prudent and politic to try and make him forget our constant disputes and to leave a favourable impression upon his mind. I consented therefore to receive his Sugar and followers and to afford the latter every assistance in my power. The principal of the followers is a Native Christian named Pascal Martine, who has been in the habit of trading between Bengal, Ceylon and Siam and in favor of whose appearance or information little can be said.

226. From the time of the departure of the 643 prisoners for Bangnarom, Phya Thep sent almost daily 8 or 10 persons described to have been brought from the Martaban Districts and to be desirous of remaining in Siam, for the purpose of ourselves examining and ascertaining their wishes. But so much was done to prevent these prisoners from exercising their own free will, women being brought to us without their children, and men without their wives, that I wrote at last to the Ministers stating it would be idle for us to put any questions to these people, considering the circumstances and the threats and intimidation under which they were brought to us, and that I must therefore request that the whole of them should be sent

back at once to the Martaban Districts whence if any desired to return to Siam the British Government would not prevent their doing so. Only 8 were not afraid to disclose their real wishes to us, and as they were too small a party to be sent overland, I determined at their request to convey them to Prince of Wales Island on board the Guardian.

227. On the 16: Phya Phiphut called upon me to signify that his Majesty had appointed the following day for giving us an audience of leave. We found again the favorable disposition of the King towards us, for we heard that the moment he was apprized of our desire of seeing him before our departure, he expressd his readiness to gratify us. I now drew up an address to the King in the Siamese language and giving it to the Phra Klang requested that he would lay it before the Ministers for their previous examination and for permission that the same might be read before his Majesty. A few verbal alterations only were made by the Ministers. The address was short, stating that we now appeared before his Majesty for the purpose of asking leave to return to Bengal, that we are deeply impressed with the many favours which his Majesty had conferred upon us, that we should not fail to report in every foreign Country, the superior understanding and many virtues of the present King of Siam which are of such a nature as to make all men consider that the Almighty has conferred a blessing upon the Country and people of Siam in appointing such a Sovereign to reign over them. We thanked him in the strongest terms for the release of the Mergui and Martaban prisoners and alluding to the Treaty of friendship and Commerce which had been arranged with the Ministers, we pointedly stated that we had no doubt that the English would receive and abide by the Treaty, and that if the Siamese Governors and Custom-house Officers would only act up to its stipulations with truth and sincerity we were confident

that Commerce at Bangkok would receive great increase, and that the English and Siamese Nations would everywhere live on terms of the greatest good will, harmony and friendship. The address concluded by offering up our sincere good wishes for his Majesty's health, happiness and long reign.

228. At 10 P. M. of the 17 : July we proceeded with the same state and ceremony as on the former occasion to the King's Palace. At our entrance we found that his Majesty did not intend to hold so great a Court as before. The Officers were not in their full dress, and his Majesty was seated not on his Throne but on a lower platform. These circumstances however were pointed out to us as proofs of his Majesty's favorable disposition. We were now it was said, to be received and treated as friends and we were supplied with some wax candles and flowers to present to his Majesty, according to the custom in use with his own Officers, when they request an audience of leave. Shortly after taking our seats, Phya Phiphut explained the object of our presence. His Majesty asked how many months we had been at Siam and whether the Mission Vessel continued well found in tackle and rigging. Phya Phiphut then read out a list of some presents of Jewels, which I tendered to his Majesty, who observed quickly, "What, presents when you come and presents also when you are departing ?" I explained that I offered these as proofs that I quitted Siam impressed with true respect for his Majesty and with good will towards every person in the country. Phya Phiphut next read out my address. The King seemed evidently pleased with it, and he was at a loss for some time what answer to make. At length he said, the Treaty which you have concerted with my Ministers I will take care shall be strictly fulfilled, but you must see that the English receive and respect it properly, and if they do so, you will have a very great name in every

Siamese Country. His Majesty asked in what direction I should be employed upon my return from Siam. I replied that it would depend entirely upon the will of the Governor General. I was now called upon to explain the situation and character of the different countries which we have retained from the Burmese. The King put some questions respecting Arracan to the Raja of Ligor and to Maha Yotha, who were prostrate a little before us, and when Maha Yotha explained that the Arracanese are called Ye-Kains by the Burmese, his Majesty doubted the correctness of my information, that it is only 40 or 50 years since Arracan was subdued by Ava stating that there were a great many Ye-Kains in the Burmese Army which captured Yothia. His Majesty next asked our opinion as to the probable length of our passage to Singapore, Malacca, Penang and Bengal and wishing us a safe and pleasant voyage he desired me upon my arrival at Calcutta to communicate to the Governor General his Majesty's earnest good wishes for the health and happiness of his Lordship and of his Family. The King then ordered the Phra Klang to furnish the Mission Vessel with 20 days provisions for all on board and the Curtains of cloth of Gold were drawn before him. The Audience on this occasion lasted twice as long as the former one, and we had a much better opportunity of seeing his Majesty. We were assured that he was much pleased, and that he had treated us with extraordinary kindness and consideration. At the close of the Audience Captain Macfarquhar and myself were presented by the Phra Klang, in the name of the King, with Siamese dresses of Silk and gold Cloth.

229. We met Nakhoda Ullee at the King's audience; he said that he had returned three days ago from Tringano the Sultan of which place he had left seriously unwell. I may mention here,

that I have reason to believe that the principal object of Nakhoda Ullee's Mission to Tringano was, to prevent the Sultan from admitting the establishment there of an English Factory. Some Mercantile correspondence and connexion, which have lately arisen between the Sultan and some of our Merchants at Singapore excited the fears of the Siamese Ministers and led them to believe, that the British Government was about to form a Settlement at Tringano.

230. At 10 A. M. on the 18th we proceeded to the Palace of the Wangna, whose Court and speeches were servile imitations of those of the King. His Highness put precisely the same questions, without seeming to understand their purport or to care whether any answer was made to them. Maha Yotha and the Phra Klang were present at this audience, but not the Rajah of Ligor, whose absence was afterwards explained to us to be owing to the severe indisposition of his eldest Son. On our return from the Palace of the Wangna we proceeded on board the Brig Guardian to receive the public letters from the King and Phra Klang. Phya Phiphut, Phya Choola, Radsithi and some other Officers came in procession with one of the King's state Boats, in which were the letters, and 6 or 7 large war Boats with Music and Streamers. We were requested not to fire a salute as the Brig was lying close to the combustible houses of the City, but the Escort was drawn up on the Quarter deck, and it presented Arms to his Majesty's letter, which was received with every respect and form, and in a manner that appeared highly to gratify the Siamese Officers.

231. At 8 P. M. every thing being ready for the Brig Guardian to drop down the river, I proceeded to take leave of the Phra Klang although suffering from a very severe indisposition under which I had been

labouring for the last five or six days. The Minister was full of friendly professions, requested me to forget all the disputes which we had had and engaged me to write to him and to let him know where I may hereafter be employed. He gave me an order for two Cargo Boats at Paknam for the purpose of accompanying the Brig and lightening her, should she be too deep to cross the Bar and directed his eldest Son to escort me to the Vessel which weighed Anchor at 11 o'clock the same night. No notice was taken of his Majesty's order to supply us with 20 days provisions and I presume that a charge for them will be a source of perquisite to the Phra Klang, No demand however has been made against the Mission Vessel for pilotage anchorage or other port duties.

232. We arrived at Paknam in the middle of the following day and allowed the Officers there to examine the Crew and Vessel agreeably to the Treaty lately arranged. We had an opportunity of observing the defences lately begun here. They consist of strong lines of Palmira trees driven into the river in the form of a crescent, running from the left bank towards the fort in the middle of the stream and leaving a space sufficient for 2 or 3 Ships only to pass close to the latter fort, to the guns of which as well as to those of the fortifications on the right bank of the river all vessels entering will be completely exposed. A chain also is intended to be drawn upon emergency across the narrow passage which is left. These defences are better than what I had imagined the Phra Klang could have executed, but the strength of the stream will most probably throw down the piles in the course of a short time, and the design is not original the whole appearing to correspond exactly with what the Siamese are described as having contrived in 1688 when they besieged the French at Bangkok.

233. The Native Christian Port Captain arrived here from Town with a Message from the King to know whether the Vessel required any Anchors or Cables, and on the same evening, having taken on board a very intelligent Pilot Khun Chit, we proceeded out, but in consequence of the strong Southerly winds our progress was very slow. The Commander of the Guardian feared that as the night of the 18th was the full Moon the tides would begin to fall as in every other part of the world on the 19th or 20th but for six succeeding days the spring tides, to our surprise, continued unabated. The nature and periodical changes of the tides at Bangkok seem uncertain and very little known to European navigators. Our being obliged to beat against a strong Southerly wind put us aground every day and prevented our taking advantage of the tide before it fell. On the 23d I sent up a message to Bangkok requesting that any dispatches which might arrive for me should be forwarded without delay.

234. On the 24: having lightened the Vessel by removing as much of the public presents as we could into the two Junks, a slight shift of wind from the Westward enabled us to cross the bar at 11 o'clock at night in 2¼ fathoms of water, the Brig drawing 11 feet. We crossed the bar at a spot much more to the Westward than that pointed out by the Pilot, and we found the tide much higher on this night than it was on the night of the full moon. On coming in to Siam, we had only a quarter less 2 fathoms of water, although at that season the water on the bar is said to be highest; and we had before suspected that the Siamese Pilots are instructed to navigate foreign Vessels through the worst channels. For the sake of future visitors it may be necessary therefore to remark, that there is most water on the bar on the third or fourth day after the full moon, and that to the westward of the spot generally shown by the Pilot

as the best to cross over, there is most probably a deeper channel.

235. On the 31: July having received back the portion of the presents, which had been put on board the Junks to lighten the Vessel and our Messenger to Bangkok having returned with information that no dispatches had arrived there for us down to the night of the 29th we made sail and took our final departure from Siam roads.

236. We were very happy to find by our last letters from Bangkok, that immediately after we left that City the Native Merchants and inhabitants came to visit Messrs. Hunter and Malloch, a measure which they had studiously avoided for several months in consequence it is believed, of secret orders from the Phra Klang, as well as of the unsettled state in which the public mind at Siam remained with respect to the hostile intentions of the British Government. The audience of leave from his Majesty and the manner in which the Mission quitted Bangkok, must have left, as I had hoped a very favorable impression on the minds of all classes of the inhabitants. Just before leaving Bangkok the Portuguese Consul assured me, that the Chinese Merchants had presented applications to the King and Phra Klang soliciting, that as the English had made a very advantageous arrangement in favor of their trade the duties and port charges upon the Commerce and Junks of the Chinese might also be regulated and fixed. The Chinese in their applications cited the same arguments which we had been using for the last six months namely that if the duties and charges are fixed and made moderate, the resort of Vessels to Bangkok will become greater, and the trade and riches of Siam will be much augmented.

237. In the afternoon of the 10: of August we anchored in Tringano Roads, where we were obliged to stop and renew our supply of wood and water. I sent a message on shore to the Sultan stating that it was not my intention to land, but that if he would depute a trusty Servant on board the Vessel I would communicate to his Highness some particulars of the proceedings of the Mission at Bangkok. The Sultan immediately sent on board one of his followers to whom I delivered a copy of the Preamble to the Treaty with Siam and of the 1st and 12th Articles, desiring him at the same time to explain clearly to his Master, that the British Government had not liberated him from Siamese Supremacy, nor pledged itself in any manner to protect his country against Siam, to which therefore he must still pay such respect and attention as he has hitherto been accustomed to pay but that if the Siamese interrupt trade and commercial intercourse at Tringano, his Highness should send immediate notice to the Honble. the Governor of Prince of Wales Island, who will determine what degree of interference the British Government may consistently use in favor of His Highness. I was pressed much to land, and on the following day the Sultan sent a special deputation on board to request that I would give His Highness a meeting, and to thank me in the strongest terms for what the Mission had done for him at Bangkok as the 12: Article would now, I was assured, quiet the apprehensions of the inhabitants of Tringano, induce them to remain in the Country, whence they had begun to emigrate and encourage them to prosecute and extend their agricultural and commercial pursuits. I was persuaded to land and give the Sultan a meeting in the afternoon of the 12th, when I found his Highness in a most debilitated and dangerous state of health. He is suffering and apparently cannot suffer long, from an abscess in his lungs. He was unable to stand and had me

introduced to the door of his inner apartment from which I conversed with him for a few minutes only. I repeated to his Highness distinctly the whole of what I had communicated before to his Messenger, and his Highness expressed much gratitude for what had been done at Bangkok. I requested him to send to the Rajah of Calantan a copy of the paper which I had given to him. He introduced me to his two Sons and I afterwards learnt that his Highness intends to bequeathe his Crown to the younger, a circumstance which will most probably throw the country into confusion, as the eldest Son is said to be a bold, turbulent character and he is certainly of a most unprepossessing appearance. Nothing could be more kind and hospitable than the conduct of the whole of the Sultan's Officers to us, and as on our passage to Siam we were scarcely noticed I presume that apprehension of giving umbrage to the Siamese had before withheld them and that the Treaty with Siam had now produced this alteration in our favor. We left Tringano on the same evening of the 12th August. The inhabitants of Tringano had, as usual, a report of a fleet of 25 ships being ready at Singapore to proceed against Bangkok.

238. We arrived at Singapore on the 25: August, and I delivered to the Acting President Mr. Presgrave, the letter addressed by the Phra Klang to Mr. Crawfurd. We proceeded on our voyage on the morning of the 29th and after touching at Malacca for a few hours on the 2d. arrived at Prince of Wales Island on the 9th of September.

(Signed) H. BURNEY Captain.

Factory Records, Straits Settlements, Vol. 138, pp. 190-272.

No. 34.

Bangkok 19 : June 1826.

To

THE OFFICER in CIVIL CHARGE of

MERGUI.

Sir,

I do myself the honor to enclose a Dispatch under a flying Seal addressed to Mr. Maingy the Civil Commissioner for the Provinces of Tavoy and Mergui, which Dispatch I beg you will forward to him with all expedition. I have to apprize you also, that the Pegu and Burmese Prisoners noticed in the Journal of my Mission which is enclosed in the Dispatch to Mr. Maingy are forwarded to you by this opportunity under charge of a Native Christian Interpreter, named Benedick. It will be necessary to provide quarters and provisions for the whole of these prisoners at Mergui until Mr. Maingy can make arrangements for forwarding them to their former homes near Martaban, and as a great proportion of these captives consists of women and children, it would be an act of great benevolence for you to detach a party from Mergui towards Bangnarom, in order to bring up any stragglers or sick who may have been left on the road during the present unfavourable weather. I an sorry to declare, that the Siamese Officers have provided these prisoners with a very scanty supply and clothing. The salary of Benedick is 20 Dollars per month and he has been paid up to this date. I shall feel obliged by your requesting the Civil Commissioner to send this Intérpreter down to Prince of Wales Island, his place of abode, by the earliest opportunity.

I have &ca

(Signed) H. BURNEY Captain

Envoy to the Court of Siam.

I have deemed it expedient to furnish Benedick with two Copies of this letter and have directed him to forward one Copy to you with all expedition immediately upon his arrival at Bangnarom in order that yourself and the Officer at Tenasserim may be sooner apprized of the approach of these prisoners and may have it in your power to forward a supply of rice, as well as a party of your men to meet these prisoners and to afford them any assistance which they may possibly require. It would be judicious to have rafts prepared and ready at the point where these prisoners will be obliged to embark upon the Tinnau river. The number of prisoners embarked here on board the ten Junks is as follows :—

Persons from Martaban Districts	630
Do. from Mergui who had been left sick ...	10
Men who had returned from Mergui with Mr. Leal	3
Total ...	643

(Signed) H. BURNEY

(A true Copy)

(Signed) H. BURNEY.

No. 35.

Bangkok 19: June 1826.

To,

George Swinton Esquire

Secretary to Government in the

Secret and Political Department.

Sir,

Referring to the Dispatch which I had the honor to transmit to you via Martaban on the 31: March, I now beg to inclose the reply which the Ministers of Siam have given to my Memorial No. 24, together with a continuation of my Journal from the 31: March to the present date.

I am happy to report to you, that the conduct of this Court towards the British Mission has of late become much more friendly. The transmission of the Draft of a Treaty tended much to pacify its alarms, and the return of the Brig Guardian has convinced the most suspicious of the truth and fairness of our proceedings. But a perusal of my Journal will enable Government to judge of the patience and perseverance which are still requisite, before a regular Treaty can be concluded with this Court, and before the signing and sealing of which instrument it is scarcely prudent to consider any object as attained.

The Right Honorable the Governor General in Council will be happy to hear, that I have succeeded in rescuing another party of upwards of 600 prisoners, which the Siamese carried away last year from the Burmese territories in our possessions near Martaban and I hope that His Lordship in Council

will adjudge me to be correct in believing that I should not have been justified in relinquishing all the other purposes of my Mission, because I had failed in effecting the restoration of the Malayan Government in Kedah. -

It is my intention to quit this Capital by the beginning of the ensuing Month.

I have &ca.

(Signed) H. BURNEY Captain

Envoy to the Court of Siam.

(A true Copy)

(Signed) H. BURNEY.

No. 36.

Phya Phiphut Kosa records the words of their Excellencies in order to deliver the same to Captain Burney. Captain Burney has stated in the letter which he submitted, that His Majesty the King of Siam had ordered the whole of the Burmese to be released, but that seven persons are remaining with Phya Soorasena, and three persons with Phya Wisoot. Phya Wisoot has been interrogated, who declares that the charge that he has seized and confined some Mergui and Tavoy men belonging to Captain Burney is false and not true. If any person knows or saw it, let Captain Burney produce him and have it settled. With respect to the seven men with Phya Soorasena, when Phya Ratnachak proceeded on the public Service and resided at Martaban, he knew that Maha Oochina was at Zittaun, and he applied to the English Commanding Officer of Martaban, to go and seize some of Maha Oochina's men, and bring them in for the purpose of being examined respecting the public Service. The English Commanding Officer gave a hundred of his Pegu people to go with the people of Phya Ratnachak and they caught seven Burmese belonging to Maha Oochina. Phya Ratnachak reported it to the English Commanding Officer and requested to be allowed to bring with him to Siam these seven persons, that had been seized. The English Commanding Officer said that Phya Ratnachak had seized them and that he might take them away with him to Bangkok for the purpose of being examined respecting the public service, and when Phya Ratnachak seized these persons he did not see any English letter with them. And when they were brought to Bangkok and examined, they said that they were residents of Zittaun, and they did not say that they had any English letter. His Majesty the King of Siam, from friendship towards the Governor General of Bengal has twice liberated Burmese and Peguers belonging

to the English and inhabitants of Mergui, Tavoy and Martaban, whom the Detachments on the Frontiers brought in, and who Captain Burney requested might be allowed to return home—and the Seven Burmese, whom Phya Ratnachak seized and brought here, were Maha Oochina's people. The English Commanding Officer at Martaban permitted Phya Ratnachak to take them away and did not object that they belonged to the English. The people of those Burmese being enemies, these Seven Burmese cannot be allowed to go. The number of persons who have been released exceeds a thousand, and seven persons cannot be any object. It is certain that these are Maha Oochina's people, and it is not proper for Captain Burney to speak about their going.

* The dupt copy has "Friday."

Letter written on Tuesday* on the 8: day of the decreasing Moon Era 1188 year Dog 8th.

Translated from the Siamese

(Signed) H. BURNEY,

Envoy to the Court of Siam.

No. 37.

THE powerful Lord, who is in possession of every good and every dignity, the God Boodh, who dwells over every head in the City of the Sacred and Great Kingdom of Si-a-Yoo-tha-ya (Titles of the King of Siam), Incomprehensible to the head and Brain, The Sacred beauty of the Royal Palace, * serene and infallible there (Titles of the Wangna or Second King of Siam) have bestowed their commands upon the heads of their Excellencies the Ministers of high rank, belonging to the Sacred and Great Kingdom of Si-a-Yoo-tha-ya, to assemble and frame a Treaty with Captain Henry Burney, the English Envoy, On the part of the English Government, The Honble. East India Company, who govern the Countries in India belonging to the English, under the authority of the of the King and Parliament of England and the Right Honorable Lord Amherst Governor of Bengal, and other English Officers of high rank, have deputed Captain Burney as an envoy to represent them and frame a Treaty with their Excellencies the Ministers of high rank, belonging to the Sacred and Great Kingdom of Si-a-yoo-tha-ya, in view that the Siamese and English Nation may become great and true friends, connected in love and affection, with genuine candour and sincerity on both sides. The Siamese and English frame two uniform Copies of a Treaty in order that one Copy may be placed in the Kingdom of Siam, and that it may become known throughout every great and small Province subject to Siam, and in order that one Copy may be placed in Bengal, and that it may become known throughout every great and small Province subject to the English Government. Both Copies of the Treaty will be attested by the Royal Seal, by the Seals of their Excellencies the Ministers of high rank, in the City of the Sacred and Great Kingdom of Si-a-yoo-tha-ya, and by the Seals of the Right Honorable Lord Amherst Governor of Bengal, and of the other English Officers of high rank.

* The dup: copy has "secure"

ARTICLE 1st. The English and Siamese engage in friendship, love and affection, with mutual truth, sincerity and candour. The Siamese must not meditate or commit evil, so as to molest the English in any manner. The English must not meditate or commit evil, so as to molest the Siamese in any manner. The Siamese must not go and molest, attack, disturb, seize or take any place territory or boundary belonging to the English in any Country subject to the English. The English must not go and molest, attack, disturb, seize or take any place, territory or boundary belonging to the Siamese in any Country subject to the Siamese. The Siamese shall settle every matter within the Siamese boundaries according to their own will and customs.

ARTICLE 2d. Should any place or Country, subject to the English, do anything that may offend the Siamese, The Siamese shall not go and injure such place or Country but first report the matter to the English, who will examine into it with truth and sincerity, and if the fault lie with the English—The English shall punish according to the fault. Should any place or Country subject to the Siamese, do any thing that may offend the English, The English shall not go and injure such place or Country, but first report the matter to the Siamese, who will examine into it with truth and sincerity, and if the fault lie with the Siamese, The Siamese shall punish according to the fault. Should any Siamese place or Country that is near an English Country, collect at any time an Army or a Fleet of Boats, if the Chief of the English Country enquire the object of such Force The Chief of the Siamese Country must declare it. Should any English place or Country that is near a Siamese Country, collect at any time an Army or a Fleet of Boats, if the Chief of the Siamese Country, enquire the object of such force, The Chief of the English Country must declare it.

ARTICLE 3d. In places and Countries belonging to the Siamese and English, lying near their mutual borders, whether to the East. West, North or South, if the English entertain a doubt as to any boundary, that has not been ascertained, the Chief on the side of the English must send a letter with some men, and people from his frontier posts, to go and enquire from the nearest Siamese Chief, who shall depute some of his Officers and people from his frontier posts, to go with the men belonging to the English Chief and point out and settle the mutual boundaries, so that they may be ascertained on both sides in a friendly manner. If a Siamese Chief entertain a doubt as to any boundary, that has not been ascertained, The Chief on the side of the Siamese must send a letter with some men and people from his frontier posts to go and enquire from the nearest English Chief, who shall depute some of his Officers and people from his frontier posts to go with the men belonging to the Siamese Chief and point out and settle the mutual boundaries so that they may be ascertained on both sides in a friendly manner.

ARTICLE 4th. Should any Siamese subject run and go and live within the boundaries of the English, The Siamese must not intrude, enter, seize or take such person within the English boundaries, but must report and ask for him in a proper manner and the English shall be at liberty to deliver the party or not. Should any English subject run and go and live within the boundaries of the Siamese, The English must not intrude, enter, seize, or take such person within the Siamese boundaries, but must report and ask for him in a proper manner and the Siamese shall be at liberty to deliver the party or not.

ARTICLE 5th. The English and Siamese having concluded a Treaty, establishing a sincere friendship

between them. Merchants, subject to the English, and their Ships, Junks and Boats may have intercourse and trade with any * Siamese Country which has much Merchandize, and the Siamese will aid and protect them, and permit them to buy and sell with facility. Merchants subject to the Siamese, and their Boats, Junks and Ships may have intercourse and trade with any* English Country, and the English will aid and protect them and permit them to buy and sell with facility. . The Siamese, desiring to go to an English Country or the English desiring to go to a Siamese Country must conform to the customs of the place or Country on either side ; should they be ignorant of the customs, the Siamese or English Officers must explain them. Siamese subjects, who visit an English Country, must conduct themselves according to the established Laws of the English Country in every particular. English subjects who visit a Siamese Country must conduct themselves according to the established Laws of the Siamese country in every particular.

*The dup: copy has "the" in both cases.

ARTICLE 6th. Merchants subject to the Siamese or English, going to trade either in Bengal, or any Country subject to the English, or at Bangkok or in any country subject to the Siamese, must pay the duties upon Commerce according to the customs of the place or Country on either side, and such Merchants, and the Inhabitants of the Country shall be allowed to buy and sell without the intervention of other persons in such Countries. Should a Siamese or English Merchant have any Complaint or Suit, he must complain to the Officers and Governors on either side, and they will examine and settle the same according to the established Laws of the place or Country on either side. If a Siamese or English Merchant buy or sell, without enquiry and ascertaining whether the Seller or buyer be of a bad or good character and if he meet with a bad man, who takes the property and absconds, The Rulers and Officers

must make search and produce the person of the absconder and investigate the matter with sincerity. If the party possess money or property he can be made to pay, but if he does not possess any, or if he cannot be apprehended, it will be the Merchant's own fault.

ARTICLE 7th. A Merchant, subject to the Siamese or English, going to trade in any English or Siamese Country and applying to build Godowns or Houses or to buy or hire Shops, or Houses in which to place his Merchandize, The Siamese or English Officers and Rulers shall be at liberty to deny him permission to stay. If they permit him to stay, he shall land and take up his residence according to such terms as may be mutually agreed on; and the Siamese or English Officers and Rulers will assist and take proper care of him, preventing the inhabitants of the Country from oppressing him, and preventing him from oppressing the inhabitants of the Country. Whenever a Siamese or English Merchant, or subject who has nothing to detain him, requests permission to leave the Country and to embark with his property on board of any vessel, he shall be allowed to do so with facility.

* "desire" in dup: copy.

ARTICLE 8th. If a Merchant desired * to go and trade in any place or Country belonging to the English or Siamese and his Ship, Boat or Junk meet with any injury whatever, The English or Siamese Officers shall afford adequate assistance and protection. Should any Vessel belonging to the Siamese or English be wrecked in any place or Country where the English or Siamese may collect any of the property belonging to such Vessel, The English or Siamese officers shall make proper enquiry and cause the property to be restored to its owner or in case of his death to his Heir, and the Owner or Heir will give proper remuneration to the persons who may have collected the property. If any

Siamese or English subject die in an English or Siamese Country, whatever property he may leave shall be delivered to his Heir. If his Heir be not living in the same country, and, unable to come, appoint a person by letter to receive the property, the whole of it shall be delivered to such person.

ARTICLE 9th. Merchants, subject to the English, desiring to come and trade in any Siamese Country with which it has not been the custom to have trade and intercourse, must first go and enquire of the Governor of the Country. Should any Country have no Merchandize, the Governor shall inform the Ship that has come to trade, that there is none. Should any Country have Merchandize sufficient for a Ship, the Governor shall allow her to come and trade.

ARTICLE 10th. The English and Siamese mutually agree, that there shall be an unrestricted trade between them, in the English Countries of Prince of Wales Island Malacca and Singapore and the Siamese Countries of Ligor, Merdilong, Singora, Patani, Junkceylon, Kedah and other Siamese provinces. Asiatic Merchants of the English Countries, not being Burmese, Peguers, or Descendants of Europeans shall be allowed to trade freely overland and by means of the Rivers. Asiatic Merchants, not being Burmese, Peguers or Descendants of Europeans, desiring to enter into and trade with the Siamese Dominions, from the Countries of Mergui, Tavoy, Tenasserim and Yé, which are now subject to the English, will be allowed to do so freely, overland and by water, upon the English furnishing them with proper certificates. But Merchants are prohibited to bring Opium, which is positively a contraband article in the Territories of Siam and should a Merchant introduce any, the Governors shall seize, burn and destroy the whole of it.

ARTICLE 11th. If an Englishman desire to transmit a letter to any person in a Siamese or other Country such person only and no other shall open and look into the letter. If a Siamese desire to transmit a letter to any person in an English or other Country such person only and no other shall open and look into the letter.

ARTICLE 12th. Siam shall not go and obstruct or interrupt Commerce in the States of Tringano and Calantan. English Merchants and subjects shall have trade and intercourse in future, with the same facility and freedom as they have heretofore had, and the English shall not go and molest, attack or disturb those States upon any pretence whatever.

ARTICLE 13th. The Siamese engage to the English, that the Siamese shall remain in Kedah and take proper care of that Country and of its people; the inhabitants of Prince of Wales Island and of Kedah shall have trade and intercourse as heretofore. The Siamese shall levy no duty upon stock and Provisions such as Cattle, Buffaloes, Poultry, Fish, Paddy and Rice which the inhabitants of Prince of Wales Island, or ships there, may have occasion to purchase in Kedah, and the Siamese shall not farm the mouths of Rivers or any Streams in Kedah but shall levy fair and proper Import and Export duties. The Siamese further engage, that when Chao Phya of Ligor returns from Bangkok, he shall release the slaves, personal servants, Family and Kindred belonging to the former Governor of Kedah and permit them to go and live wherever they please. The English engage to the Siamese, that the English do not desire to take possession of Kedah; that they will not attack or disturb it, nor permit the former Governor of Kedah or any of his followers to attack disturb or injure in any manner the territory of Kedah or any other Territory subject to Siam. The English

engage that they will make arrangements for the former Governor of Kedah to go and live in some other Country and not Prince of Wales Island or Prye, or in Perak, Salengore, or any Burmese Country. If the English do not let the former Governor of Kedah go and live in some other Country as here engaged, The Siamese may continue to levy an Export duty upon Paddy and Rice in Kedah. The English will not prevent any Siamese, Chinese or other Asiatics at Prince of Wales Island from going to reside in Kedah if they desire it.

ARTICLE 14th. The Siamese and English mutually engage, that the Rajah of Perak shall govern his Country according to his own will. Should he desire to send the Gold and Silver Flowers to Siam as heretofore, The English will not prevent his doing as he may desire. If Chao Phya of Ligor desire to send down to Perak, with friendly intention Forty or Fifty men whether Siamese, Chinese or other Asiatic subjects of Siam, or if the Rajah of Perak desire to send any of his Ministers or Officers to seek Chao Phya of Ligor, the English shall not forbid them. The Siamese or English shall not send any force to go and molest, attack or disturb Perak. The English will not allow the State of Salengore to attack or disturb Perak and the Siamese shall not go and attack or disturb Salangore. The arrangements stipulated in these two last Articles respecting Perak and Kedah, Chao Phya of Ligor shall execute as soon as he returns home from Bangkok.

The fourteen Articles of this Treaty let the great and subordinate Siamese and English Officers together with every great and small Province hear, receive and obey without fail. Their Excellencies the Ministers of high rank at Bangkok and Captain Henry Burney whom the Right Honorable Lord

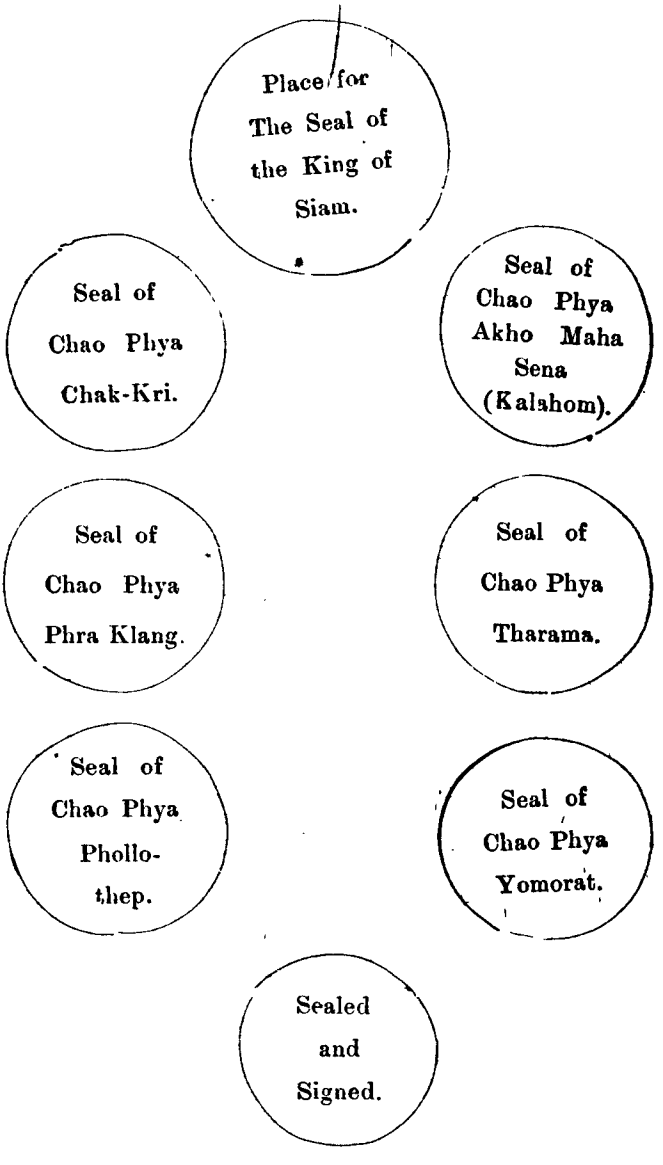
Amherst, Governor of Bengal, deputed as an Envoy to represent His Lordship, framed this Treaty together in the presence of Prince Krom Meun Soorin Thi-raksa, in the City of the Sacred and Great Kingdom of Si-a-yoo-tha-ya. The Treaty written in the Siamese, Malayan and English languages was concluded on Tuesday, on the first day of the Seventh decreasing Moon 1188 year Dog 8, according to the Siamese Era, corresponding with the twentieth day of June 1826 of the European Era. Both Copies of the Treaty are sealed and attested by their Excellencies the Ministers and by Captain Henry Burney. One Copy Captain Burney will take for the ratification of the Governor of Bengal, and one Copy bearing the Royal Seal, Chao Phya of Ligor will take and place at Kedah. Captain Burney appoints to return to Prince of Wales Island in seven months, in the second moon of the year Dog 8, and to exchange the ratifications of this Treaty with Phra Phaki di Bori-rak * at Kedah. The Siamese and English will form a friendship that shall be perpetuated, that shall know no end or interruption, as long as Heaven and Earth endure.

* "Phra Phak-di-Bori rak" in dup: copy.

A literal translation from the Siamese

(Signed) H. BURNEY Captain

Envoy to the Court of Siam.



(Signed) H. BURNEY Captain
Envoy to the Court of Siam
from the Right Hon. the Governor
General of British India.

A true Copy
(Signed) H. BURNEY.

Their Excellencies the Ministers and Captain H. Burney having settled a Treaty of Friendship, consisting of Fourteen Articles, now frame the following Agreement with respect to English Vessels desiring to come and trade in the City of the Sacred and Great Kingdom of Si-a-yoo-tha-ya (Bangkok).

ARTICLE 1st. Vessels, belonging to the subjects of the English Government, whether European or Asiatics desiring to come and trade at Bangkok, must conform to the established Laws of Siam in every particular. Merchants coming to Bangkok are prohibited against purchasing Paddy or Rice, for the purpose of exporting the same as Merchandize and if they import Firearms, Shot or Gunpowder, they are prohibited against selling them to any party but to the Government. Should the Government not require such Fire Arms, Shot or Gunpowder the Merchants must re-export the whole of them. With exception to such Warlike Stores and Paddy and Rice, Merchants of the English and Merchants at Bangkok, may buy and sell without the interruption* of any other person and with freedom and facility. Merchants, coming to trade, shall pay at once the whole of the Duties and Charges, consolidated according to the breadth of the Vessel. If the Vessel bring an Import Cargo, she shall be charged seventeen hundred (1700) Ticals for each Siamese fathom in breadth.

* "intervention" in dup: copy.

If the Vessel bring no Import Cargo, she shall be charged fifteen hundred (1500) Ticals for each Siamese fathom in breadth.

No Import-Export or other Duty shall be levied upon the buyers or sellers from or to English subjects.

ARTICLE 2d. Merchant Vessels, the property of English subjects, arriving off the bar, must

first anchor and stop there, and the Commander of the Vessel must dispatch a person with an account of the Cargo and a return of the People, Guns, Shot and Powder on board the Vessel, for the information of the Governor at the mouth of the river, who will send a Pilot and Interpreter to convey the established Regulations to the Commander of the Vessel. Upon the Pilot bringing the Vessel over the Bar she must anchor and stop below the Chokey, which the Interpreter will point out.

ARTICLE 3d. The proper Officers will go on board the Vessel and examine her thoroughly, and after the Guns, Shot and Powder have been removed and deposited at Paknam (Port at the mouth of the Menam) the Governor of Paknam will permit the Vessel to pass up to Bangkok.

ARTICLE 4th. Upon the Vessel arriving at Bangkok the Officers of the Customs will go on board and examine her, open the hold and take an account of whatever Cargo may be on board ; and after the breadth of the Vessel has been measured and ascertained, the Merchants will be allowed to buy and sell according to the first Article of this agreement. Should a vessel upon receiving an Export Cargo, find that she cannot cross the bar with the whole, and that she must hire Cargo Boats to take down a portion of the Cargo, the Officers of the Customs and Chokeys shall not charge any further duty upon such Cargo boats.

ARTICLE 5th. Whenever a Vessel or Cargo Boat completes her lading, the Commander of the Vessel must go and ask Chao Phya Phra Klang for a Port clearance and if there be no cause for detention Chao Phya Phra Klang shall deliver the Port clearance without delay. When the Vessel upon her departure arrives at Paknam, she must Anchor and stop at the usual Chokey and after the proper Officers have gone on

board and examined her, the Vessel may receive her Guns, Shot and Powder and take her departure.

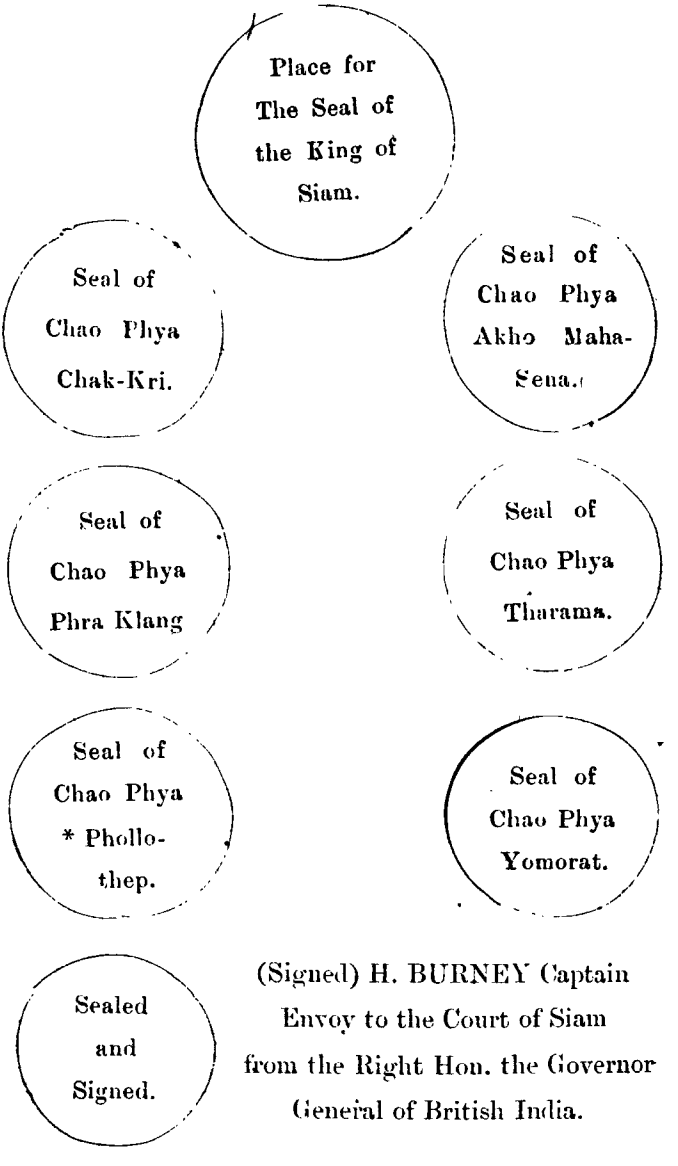
ARTICLE 6th. Merchants being subjects of the English Government, whether Europeans or Asiatics, the Commanders, Officers, Lascars and the whole of the Crew of Vessels must conform to the established Laws of Siam and to the stipulations of this Treaty in every particular. If merchants of every class do not observe the Articles of this Treaty and oppress the inhabitants of the Country, become thieves or bad men, kill men, speak offensively of, or treat disrespectfully any great or subordinate Officers of the Country, and the case become important in any way whatever, the proper Officers shall take jurisdiction of it and punish the offender. If the offence be homicide, and the Officers, upon investigation, see that it proceeded from evil intention they shall punish by death. If it be any other offence and the party be the Commander or Officer of a Vessel, or a Merchant he shall be fined, if he be of a lower rank he shall be whipped or imprisoned according to the established Laws of Siam. The Governor of Bengal will prohibit English subjects, desiring to come and trade at Bangkok, against speaking disrespectfully or offensively in Siam to or of the Great Officers. If any person at Bangkok oppress any English subject, he shall be punished according to his offence in the same manner.

The Six Articles of this agreement let the Officers at Bangkok, and Merchants subject to the English fulfil and obey in every particular.

A literal translation from the Siamese

(Signed) H. BURNEY Captain

Envoy to the Court of Siam.


Place for The Seal of the King of Siam.
Seal of Chao Phya Chak-Kri.
Seal of Chao Phya Akho Maha-Sena.
Seal of Chao Phya Phra Klang
Seal of Chao Phya Tharama.
Seal of Chao Phya * Phollo-thep.
Seal of Chao Phya Yomorat.
Sealed and Signed.

* Dup : copy has "Kholo Thep."

(Signed) H. BURNEY Captain
Envoy to the Court of Siam
from the Right Hon. the Governor
General of British India.

A true Copy
(Signed) H. BURNEY.

หนังสือ สัญญา ภาษา ไทย

คัด จาก ฉบับ เดิม ซึ่ง ส่ง ออก ไป ไว้ ณเมือง นคร ศรี ธรรมราช

สมเด็จ บรมนารถ บรมบพิตร์ พระ พุทธ เจ้า อยู หัว ณกรุง พระมหา นคร ศรี อยุทธยา ล้น เกล้า ล้นกระ หม่อม กวม พระ ราช วัง บวร สถาน มงคล มี รับ สั่ง โปรด เกล้า ฯ ให้ ท่าน อัคคมหา เสนาธิบดี ผู้ ใหญ่ ฝ่าย กรุง พระ มหานคร ศรี อยุทธยา พร้อม กัน ทำ หนังสือ สัญญา กับกบี ตัน หัน ตรี บาวนิ่ทูตอังกฤษ ฝ่าย กรุงอังกฤษ อันณรบันอิดอินเดียกุมปั่นนี่ ผู้ครอง อิน เดีย ของ อังกฤษ อยู่ ใน บังคับ กิงอัน ปาดิ แมน อังกฤษ กับ เรด อันณร บันรอดอำหัดสิท เจ้า เมือง มั่งกล่า แด ขุน นาง ผู้ ใหญ่ ฝ่าย กรุง อังกฤษ พร้อม กัน แต่ง ให้ กบี ตัน หัน ตรี บารนี่ เปน ทูต แทน ตัว มา ทำ หนังสือ สัญญา ด้วยท่านอัคคมหาเสนาธิบดี ผู้ ใหญ่ ณกรุงพระมหานครศรีอยุทธยา ไทย กับ ชาติ อังกฤษ ได้ เปน มหา มิตร ไมตรี ไว้ ความ สัจ ผูก รัก ใคร่ ด้วยน้ำ ใจอัน ซื่อ ตรง สุจริต ต่อ กัน ทั้ง สอง ฝ่าย ไทย อังกฤษ ทำหนังสือ สัญญา ร่วม กัน สอง ฉบับ ให้ ไว้ ณกรุง ไทย ฉบับ หนึ่ง ให้ หัว เมือง ใหญ่ น้อย ซึ่ง ขึ้น แก่ กรุง ไทย รู้ จง ทั่ว ให้ ไว้ ณ เมือง มั่ง กล่า ฉบับ หนึ่ง ให้ หัว เมือง ใหญ่ น้อย ซึ่ง ขึ้น แก่ กรุง อังกฤษ รู้ จง ทั่ว บีด ตรา หลวง ตรา ท่าน อัคคมหา เสนาธิบดี ผู้ใหญ่ ณกรุง พระ มหา นครศรี อยุทธยา ลง ใน หนังสือ สัญญา ทั้ง สอง ฉบับ เปน สำคัญ บีด ตรา เรด อันณร บัน ดอด อำ หัด สิท เจ้า เมือง มั่งกล่า ตรา ขุน นาง ผู้ ใหญ่ ฝ่าย กรุง อังกฤษ ลง ใน หนังสือ สัญญา ทั้ง สอง ฉบับ เปน สำคัญ,

ข้อ ๑ ว่า อังกฤษ กับ ไทย เปนไมตรี รัก ใคร่ โดย ความ สัจสุจริต ซื่อ ตรง ต่อ กัน ไทยมิ ได้ คิด ร้ายที่จะเบียดเบียนทำสิ่งไร ต่ออังกฤษ ๆ มิ ได้ คิด ร้าย ที่ จะ เบียด เบียน ทำ สิ่ง ไร ต่อ ไทย แต่ บรรดา บ้านเมือง ซึ่ง ขึ้น แก่ อังกฤษ ทั้ง สิ้น ไทย ไม่ ไป เบียด เบียน รบ พุ่ง ชิง เอา บ้านเมือง เขตร แดน ของ อังกฤษ แต่ บรรดา บ้านเมือง ซึ่ง ขึ้น แก่ ไทย ทั้ง สิ้น อังกฤษ ไม่ ไป เบียด เบียน รบ พุ่ง ชิง เอา บ้านเมือง เขตร แดน ของ ไทย ๆ จะ จัด แจง เขตรแดน ไทย ตาม อย่าง ธรรมเนียม ประการ ใด ตาม แต่ ใจ ไทย

ข้อ ๒ ถ้า บ้านเมือง ใดซึ่ง ขึ้น แก่ อังกฤษจะ ทำ สิ่ง ใด ให้ เหลือเกิน ต่อ เมือง ไทย ๆ ไม่ ไป ทำ อัน ตราย แก่ บ้าน เมือง จะ บอก แก่ อังกฤษ ก่อน อังกฤษ จะ ว่า กล่าว ให้ โดย สัจ โดย จริง ถ้า ผิด อังกฤษ จะ ทำ โทษ ตาม ความ ผิด ถ้า บ้าน เมือง ใด ซึ่ง ขึ้น แก่ ไทย จะ ทำ สิ่ง ใด ให้ เหลือ เกิน ต่อ อังกฤษ ๆ ไม่ ไปทำ อันตราย แก่ บ้าน เมือง จะ บอก กล่าว แก่ เมืองไทย ก่อน ไทย จะ ว่า กล่าวให้ โดย สัจ โดย จริง ถ้า ผิด ไทย จะ ทำ โทษ ตาม ความ ผิด ถ้า บ้าน เมือง ไทย ซึ่ง อยู่ ใกล้ เมือง อังกฤษ จะ ยก กอง ทัพ เรือ ไป ถ้า เจ้า เมือง อังกฤษ ถาม ว่า จะ ไป ไหน เจ้า เมือง ไทย จะ ต้อง บอก แก่ เจ้า เมือง อังกฤษ ถ้า บ้าน เมือง อังกฤษ ซึ่ง อยู่ ใกล้ เมือง ไทย จะ ยก กอง ทัพ เรือ ไป ถ้า เจ้า เมือง ไทย ถาม ว่า จะ ไป ไหน เจ้า เมือง อังกฤษ จะ ต้อง บอก แก่ เจ้า เมือง ไทย,

ข้อ ๓ ถ้า บ้าน เมือง ของ ไทย ของ อังกฤษ ฝ่าย ทิศ ตวัน ขึ้น ตวัน ตก ทิศ ลม ว่าว ทิศ ลม สำ เภา ที่ อยู่ ใกล้ ต่อ แดน กัน ถ้า อังกฤษ สงไสย ด้วย เขตร แดน ยัง ไม่ รู้ แน่ ก็ ให้ เจ้า เมือง ฝ่าย ข้าง อังกฤษ มี หนังสือ แต่ง คน แล ชาว ด่าน มา ได้ ถาม เจ้า เมือง ฝ่าย ไทย ที่ อยู่ ใกล้ กัน

เจ้าเมือง ฝ่ายไทย จะแต่ง กรมการ แล ชาวด่าน พร้อม ด้วย คน เจ้าเมือง ฝ่าย อังกฤษ ไป กำหนด ชี้ ที่ แดน ต่อ กัน ให้รู้ เปน แน่ ทั้ง สอง ข้าง โดย ทาง ไมตรี ถ้า เจ้า เมือง ฝ่าย ไทย สงไสย ด้วย เขตร แดน ยัง ไม่ รู้ แน่ ก็ ให้ เจ้า เมือง ฝ่าย ข้าง ไทย มี หนังสือ แต่ง คน แล ชาว ด่าน มา ไต่ ถาม เจ้า เมือง ฝ่าย อังกฤษ ที่ อยู่ ใกล้ กัน เจ้า เมือง ฝ่าย อังกฤษ จะ แต่ง กรม การ แล ชาว ด่าน พร้อม ด้วย คน เจ้า เมือง ฝ่าย ไทย ไป กำหนด ชี้ ที่ แดน ต่อ กัน ให้ รู้ เปน แน่ ทั้ง สอง ข้าง โดย ทาง ไมตรี

ข้อ ๔ ถ้า คน ของ ไทย หนี ไป อยู่ ใน แดน อังกฤษ ไทย ไม่ ล่วง เกิน เข้า ไป จับ กุม คน ใน แดน อังกฤษ ไทย จะ ไป ว่ากล่าว ขอ แต่ โดย ดี อังกฤษ จะ ยอม ให้ ก็ ได้ ไม่ ยอม ให้ ก็ ได้ ถ้า คน ของ อังกฤษ หนี ไป อยู่ ใน แดน ไทย อังกฤษ ไม่ ล่วง เกิน เข้า ไป จับ กุม คน ใน แดน ไทย อังกฤษจะไปว่ากล่าวขอแต่ โดย ดี ไทย จะ ยอม ให้ก็ได้ ไม่ ยอมให้ ก็ ได้

ข้อ ๕ อังกฤษ กับ ไทย ได้ ทำ หนังสือ สัญญา เปน ไมตรี สุจริต ต่อ กันแล้ว ถ้า ฉกค้า ฝ่าย ข้าง อังกฤษ ไป มา ค้า ขาย ณเมืองไทยที่ เมือง มี สิน ค้า มาก สดุบ กำบั่น เรือ สำเภา จะ ไป มา ค้า ขาย ได้ ไทย จะ ทำนุ บำรุง ให ซื้อ ขาย โดย สดวก ถ้า ฉก ค้า ฝ่าย ข้าง ไทย ไป มา ค้า ขาย ณเมือง อังกฤษ ใด ๆ เรือสำเภา สดุบกำบั่น จะ ไป มา ค้า ขาย ได้ อังกฤษ จะ ทำ นุ บำรุง ให้ซื้อ ขาย โดย สดวก ไทย จะ ไป เมือง อังกฤษ ๆ จะ ไป เมือง ไทย ให้ ทำ ตาม อย่าง ธรรม เนียม บ้าน เมือง ทั้ง สอง ฝ่าย ถ้า ไม่ รู้ อย่าง ธรรม เนียม ให้ ขุน นาง ไทย ขุน นาง อังกฤษ บอก อย่าง ธรรม เนียม ให้ พวก ไทย ที่ ไป เมือง อังกฤษ ต้อง ทำ ตาม กฎหมาย อย่าง ธรรมเนียม เมือง อังกฤษ ทุก สิ่ง พวก อังกฤษ ไป เมือง ไทย ต้อง ทำ ตาม กฎหมาย อย่าง ธรรมเนียม เมือง ไทย ทุก สิ่ง ,

ข้อ ๖ ถ้า ลูก ค้า ฝ่าย เมือง ไทย ก็ ดี เมือง อังกฤษ ก็ ดี จะ ไป ซื้อ ขาย ณเมือง มั่ง กล่า แล หัว เมือง ขึ้น แก่ อังกฤษ จะ ไป ซื้อ ขาย ณกรุง ไทย แล หัว เมือง ขึ้น แก่ กรุง ไทย ให้ ลูก ค้า เสีย ค่า ธรรม เนียม ในการ ค้า ขาย ให้ ตาม อย่าง ตาม ธรรม เนียม บ้าน เมือง ทั้ง สอง ฝ่าย ให ลูก ค้า แล ไพร่ พล เมือง ได้ ซื้อ ขาย เอง ใน เมือง นั้น ถ้า ลูก ค้า ไทย ลูก ค้า อังกฤษ จะ มี คดี ข้อ ความ สิ่ง ใด ๆ ก็ ดี ให้ พ้อง ร้อง ต่อ ขุน นาง เจ้า เมือง กรม การ ฝ่าย ไทย ฝ่าย อังกฤษ ขุน นาง เจ้า เมือง กรมการ จะ ชำ ระ ตัด สิน ให้ ตาม กฎหมาย อย่าง ธรรม เนียม บ้าน เมือง ทั้ง สอง ฝ่าย ถ้า ลูก ค้า ไทย ลูก ค้า อังกฤษ ก็ดี ซื้อ ขาย ไม่ สิ้น สวน ว่า คน ชั่ว คน ดี ซื้อ ขาย ปะ คน ชั่ว พา เอา สิ่ง ของ หลบ หนี ไป แล เจ้า เมือง กรม การ จะ สืบ สวน เอา ตัว มา ชำระ ให้ โดย สุจริต ถ้า มี เงิน มี ของ ใช้ ให้ ก็ ได้ ถ้า ไม่ มี เงิน ไม่ มี ของ ให้ แล มิ ได้ ตัว ผู้ หนี ก็ เพราะ ลูก ค้า ทำ ผิด เอง ,

ข้อ ๗ ถ้า ลูก ค้า ฝ่าย ไทย ก็ ดี ฝ่าย อังกฤษ ก็ ดี จะ ไป ซื้อ ขาย ณเมือง อังกฤษ แล เมือง ไทย จะ ขอ ตั้ง ห้าง ตั้ง เรือน จะ ขอ อาไศรย์ แล เช่า ที่ โรง เรือน ใส่ สิน ค้า ถ้า ขุน นาง ไทย ขุน นาง อังกฤษ แล เจ้า เมือง กรมการ ไม่ ยอม ให้ อยู่ ก็ อยู่ ไม่ ได้ ถ้า ยอม ให้ อยู่ จึง ให้ ลูก ค้า ขึ้น อยู่ ตาม จะ สัญญา ว่า กล่าว กัน แล ให้ ขุน นาง ไทย ขุน นาง อังกฤษ แล เจ้า เมือง กรมการ ช่วย ดู แล เอา ใจ ใส่ อย่า ให้ ไพร่ บ้าน พล เมือง ทำ ข่ม เหง แก่ ลูก ค้า อย่า ให้ ลูก ค้า ทำ ข่ม เหง แก่ ไพร่ บ้าน พล เมือง ถ้า ลูก ค้า อังกฤษ พวก อังกฤษ ลูก ค้า ไทย พวก ไทย ที่ ไม่ เกี่ยว ข้อง จะ ขน เอา สิ่ง ของ ลง เรือ สำเภา สลุป กำปั่น ลา กลับ ไป บ้าน เมือง เมื่อ ใด ก็ ให้ ได้ กลับ ไป โดย สดวก ,

ข้อ ๘ ถ้าลูกค้าจะไปค้าขายบ้านใดเมืองใดฝ่ายอังกฤษก็ดีฝ่ายไทยก็ดี ถ้าสลุบกำปั่นเรือแลสำเภาของอังกฤษของไทยก็ดีจะเปนอันตรายสิ่งใดสิ่งหนึ่ง ขุนนางไทยแลขุนนางอังกฤษจะช่วยทำนุบำรุงกว่าจะเสร็จ ถ้าสลุบกำปั่นเรือสำเภาของไทยของอังกฤษก็ดี แตกลงที่บ้านใดเมืองใด ไทยอังกฤษเก็บได้สิ่งของในสลุบกำปั่นเรือสำเภาที่แตกมากน้อยเท่าใด ให้ขุนนางอังกฤษขุนนางไทยชำระไล่เลียงเอาสิ่งของคืนให้แก่เจ้าของ ถ้าเจ้าของตายก็ให้คืนให้แก่พวกพ้อง ให้เจ้าของแลพวกพ้องแทนคุณผู้เก็บได้ตามสมควร ถ้าพวกไทยไปเมืองอังกฤษตาย พวกอังกฤษไปเมืองไทยตาย สิ่งของพวกไทยพวกอังกฤษมีอยู่มากน้อยเท่าใดให้คืนให้พวกพ้องของไทยอังกฤษ ถ้าพวกพ้องไทยอังกฤษไม่มีที่เมืองนั้นอยู่ เมืองอื่นมามิได้ จะแต่งคนถือหนังสือมารับเอาสิ่งของก็ให้ส่งสิ่งของให้แก่ผู้ถือหนังสือให้สิ้น,

ข้อ ๙ ถ้าลูกค้าข้างอังกฤษจะใคร่มาค้าขายณเมืองของไทยที่ยังไม่เคยไปมาค้าขาย ให้ลูกค้าเข้าหาพระยาผู้ครองเมืองก่อน ถ้าเมืองไหนไม่มีสินค้าพระยาผู้ครองเมืองก็จะบอกว่าสลุบกำปั่นจะมาค้าขายหามีสินค้าไม่ ถ้าเมืองไหนมีสินค้าพอจะรับสลุบกำปั่นได้ พระยาผู้ครองเมืองก็จะให้สลุบกำปั่นมาค้าขาย,

ข้อ ๑๐ อังกฤษแลไทยสัญญาต่อกัน การค้าขายซึ่งจะมีต่อกันโดยสดวกในเมืองอังกฤษ เมืองเกาะหมาก เมืองมะลักา เมืองสิงหโปรา แลเมืองของไทยคือ เมืองนคร เมืองพัทลุง เมืองสงขลา เมืองตานี เมืองกลาง เมืองไทร แลหัวเมืองอื่นๆ ลูกค้าจีน ลูกค้าแขก

เมือง อังกฤษ ให้ ได้ ค้า ขาย ทาง บก ทาง คลอง โดย สดวก ถ้า ลูก ค้า จีน ลูกค้าแขก เมือง มฤท เมือง ทวาย เมืองตนาว เมือง เย ซึ่ง ขึ้น กับ อังกฤษ จะ เข้า มา ค้า ขาย ณ เมือง ไทย อังกฤษ จะ มี หนังสือ เข้า มา เปน สำคัญ ให้ ได้ ค้า ขาย ทาง บก ทาง น้ำ โดย สดวก แล้ว จะ ห้ามมิ ให้ ลูก ค้า เอา ฝิ่น ซึ่ง เปน ของ ต้อง ห้าม เข้า มา ค้า ขาย ณ เมือง ไทย เปน อัน ขาด ถ้า ลูก ค้า ขึน เอา ฝิ่น เข้า มา ขาย เมือง ใด ให้ พระยา ผู้ ครอง เมือง เก็บ ริบ เอา ฝิ่น เผา ไฟ เสีย ให้ สิ้น,

ข้อ ๑๑ ถ้า อังกฤษ จะ มี หนังสือ มา ถึง ผู้ ใด ณ เมือง ไทย ก็ ดี ณ เมือง อื่น ๆ ก็ ดี ให้ ผู้ นั้น เบิด หนังสือ มิ ให้ ผู้ อื่น เบิด หนังสือ ออก ดู ถ้า ไทย จะ มี หนังสือ ไป ถึง ผู้ ใด ณ เมือง อังกฤษ ก็ ดี ณ เมือง อื่น ๆ ก็ ดี ให้ ผู้ นั้น เบิด หนังสือ มิ ให้ ผู้ อื่น เบิด หนังสือ ออก ดู,

ข้อ ๑๒ เมือง ไทย ไม่ ไป ขัด ขวาง ทาง ค้า ขาย ณ เมือง ตรังกานู เมือง กลันตัน ให้ ลูก ค้า พวก อังกฤษ ได้ ไป มา ค้า ขาย โดย คล่อง สดวก ข้าง น่า เหมือน แต่ ก่อน อังกฤษ ไม่ ไป เบียด เบียน รบ กวน เมือง ตรังกานู เมือง กลันตัน ด้วย การ สิ่ง ใด,

ข้อ ๑๓ ไทย สัญญา ต่อ อังกฤษ ว่า ไทย ให้ อยู่ รักษา เมือง ไทร แล ไพร่ พล เมือง เมือง ไทร แล คน เมือง เกาะ หมาก เมือง ไทร จะ ได้ ไป มา ค้า ขาย อย่าง เดิม แล โค กระบือ เบ็ด ไก่ ปลา เข้า เปลือก เข้า สาร ซึ่ง เปน เสบียง อาหาร ไพร่ พล เมือง ๆ เกาะ หมาก แล กำปั่น ใน เมือง

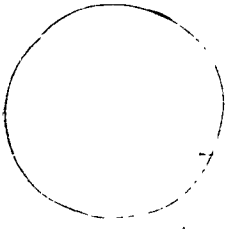
เกาะหมาก ต้องการจะซื้อแต่เมืองไทร ไทยไม่เรียกภาษี แลปากน้ำ
ลองใดๆที่เมืองไทรไทยไม่ตั้งด่วยขาด ไทยเรียกเอาจังกอบภาษี
ตามสมควร ไทยสัญญาว่าเจ้าพระยานครกลับออกไปแต่กรุง จะ
ปล่อยครอบครัวข้าทาษบ่าวคนสนิทของพระยาไทรคนเก่าให้กลับ
คืนไปอยู่ตามชอบใจ อังกฤษสัญญาต่อไทยว่าไม่ต้องการเอา
เมืองไทร อังกฤษไม่รบกวนเมืองไทรแลไม่ให้พระยาไทรคนเก่ากับ
บ่าวไพร่ของพระยาไทรคนเก่าไปรบกวนทำอันตรายสิ่งหนึ่งสิ่งใด
ณเมืองไทรแลเมืองอื่นๆซึ่งขึ้นกับเมืองไทย แลอังกฤษสัญญาว่า
จะจัดแจงให้พระยาไทรคนเก่าไปอยู่เมืองอื่น ไม่ให้พระยาไทรคน
เก่าอยู่ที่เมืองเกาะหมาก เมืองเปไทร เมืองเปหระ เมืองสลาหงอ
เมืองพม่า ถ้าอังกฤษไม่ให้พระยาไทรคนเก่าไปอยู่เมืองอื่นตาม
สัญญาก็ให้ไทยเรียกเอาภาษีเข้าเปลือกเข้าสารที่เมืองไทรเหมือน
แต่ก่อน อังกฤษสัญญาว่าไทยแขกจีนซึ่งอยู่ณเมืองเกาะหมากจะ
มาอยู่ณเมืองไทรอังกฤษไม่ห้ามปราม ,

ข้อ ๑๔ ไทยกับอังกฤษสัญญาต่อกันว่า ให้พระยาเปหระ
ครองเมืองเปหระตามใจพระยาเปหระ ถ้าพระยาเปหระจะถวายดอก
ไม้ทองเงินณกรุงตามแต่ก่อนก็ตามใจพระยาเปหระ อังกฤษไม่
ห้ามปราม เจ้าพระยานครจะใช้ไทยแขกจีนคนฝ่ายไทยลงไปเมือง
เปหระโดยดี ๕๐—๕๐ คน ถ้าพระยาเปหระจะใช้ศรีตวันกรมการ
คนฝ่ายเมืองเปหระมาหาเจ้าพระยานครอังกฤษไม่ห้าม ไทย

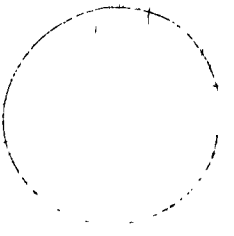
อังกฤษ ไม่ ยก กอง ทัพ ไป เบียด เบียนรบ กวน ณเมือง เปหระ อังกฤษ ไม่ ให้ เมือง สลาหงอมา รบ กวน เมือง เปหระ ไทย ก็ ไม่ ไป รบ กวน เมือง สลาหงอ การ ซึ่ง สัญญา เมือง ไทร เมือง เปหระ ๒ ข้อ นี้ ต่อ เมื่อ เจ้า พระ ยา นคร กลับ ออก ไป แต่ กรุง จึง จะ ได้ จัด แจง ตาม สัญญา ,

แล ความ สัญญา ๑๔ ข้อ นี้ ให้ ขุน นาง ผู้ ใหญ่ ผู้ น้อย ฝ่าย ไทย ฝ่าย อังกฤษ ทุก หัว เมือง ใหญ่ น้อย ทั้ง สิ้น ด้วย กัน ฟัง เอา ถ้อย คำ สัญญา นี้ เถิด แล หนังสือ สัญญา นี้ ท่าน อัคคมหา เสนาธิบดี ผู้ ใหญ่ ณกรุง กับกปีตันหันตรีบารนี ซึ่ง เรด อัน ณร บัน ลอดอำ หัด สิท เจ้า เมือง มั่งกล่าใช้ ให้ เปน ทูต เข้า มา แทน ตัว เจ้า เมืองมั่งกล่า พร้อม กัน ทำ ณกรุง พระ มหานคร ศรีอยุทธยา น่า พระ ที่ นั่ง เจ้ากรม หมื่น สุรินทรักษ เปน อักษร ไทย, มลายู , อังกฤษ ทำ แล้ว เสร็จ ณวัน ๓ ฯ ๑ ๗ ค่ำ ศัก ราช ไทย ๑๑๘๘ ปี จออัฐศก ศัก ราช ฝรั่ง ๑๘๒๖ ปี เดือน ยูน ๒๐ วัน ปีด ตรา ท่าน อัคคมหา เสนาธิบดี แล ปีด ตรา กปีตันหันตรีบารนี ลง เปน สำคัญ ทั้ง สอง ฉบับ แล้ว ฉบับ หนึ่ง กปีตันหันตรีบารนี เอา ออก ไป ปีด ตรา เจ้า เมือง มั่งกล่า ฉบับ หนึ่ง ปีด ตรา หลวง ณกรุง พระ มหา นครศรี อยุทธยา เจ้า พระ ยา นคร เอา ออก ไป ไว้ ณเมือง ไทร กปี ตัน หัน ตรี บารนี กำหนด ใน ๗ เดือน ณเดือน ยี่ ปี จอ อัฐศก จะ กลับ มา ให้ ถึง เกาะ หมาก แล้ว จะ เอา หนังสือ สัญญา มา เปลี่ยน ต่อ พระ ภักดีบริรักษ์ ณเมือง ไทร ไทย กับ อังกฤษ ก็ จะ เปน ไมตรี กัน สืบ ต่อ ไป ไม่ รู้ สิ้น ไม่ รู้ สุด ชั่ว ฟ้า แล ดิน ,

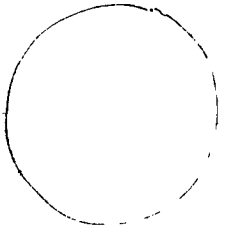
ตรา หลวง



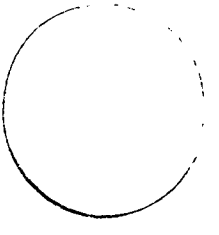
เจ้า พระยา จักรี



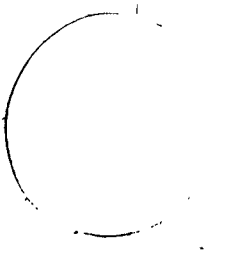
เจ้า พระ ยา อัคคมหา เสนา



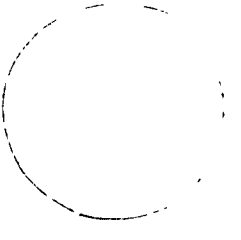
เจ้า พระ ยา พระ คลัง



เจ้า พระ ยา ธรมา



เจ้า พระยา พลเทพ



เจ้า พระ ยา ยมราช

◎ ช้าง นี้ ตรา เจ้า เมือง มั่งกล่า
ตรา ขุน นาง เมือง มั่ง กล่า
ตรา กบี ตันหันตรีบารนี

ท่าน อัคคมหาเสนาธิบดี กับ กบีดันหันตรีบารนี ทำ หนังสือ สัญญา ทาง ไมตรี ๑๔ ข้อ แล้ว จึง ทำหนังสือ สัญญา สลุบ, กำปั่น, อังกฤษ จะ เข้า มา ค้า ขาย ณกรุง พระ มหา นคร ศรี อยุทธยา ต่อ ไป,

ข้อ ๑ ว่า สลุบ กำปั่น ฝรั่ง แขก ซึ่ง เปน พวก อังกฤษ จะ เข้า มา ค้า ขาย ณกรุง ไทย ต้อง ทำ ตาม กฎหมาย อย่าง ธรรมเนียม ณกรุง ไทย ทุก สิ่ง แล้ว ถูก ค้า เข้า มา ณกรุง ห้าม มิ ให้ ถูก ค้า ซื้อ เข้าเปน สิน ค้า ออก ไป แต ถูก ค้า เอา ปืน กระสุน ดินดำ เข้า มา ขาย ห้าม มิ ให้ ขาย แก่ ถูก ค้า ใน กรุง ให้ ขาย ใน หลวง ถ้า ใน หลวง ไม่ ต้อง การ ก็ ให้ ถูก ค้า เอา ปืน กระสุนดินดำ กลับ คืน ออก ไป แต่ สิน ค้า นอก จาก ปืน กระสุน ดิน ดำ เข้า เปลือก เข้า สาร ณกรุง ไทย จะ ให้ ถูก ค้า พวก อังกฤษ แต ถูก ค้า ณกรุง ได้ ซื้อ ได้ ขาย เอง ใน กรุง โดย คล่อง สดวก แล้ว ถูก ค้า ผู้ เข้า มา ค้า ขาย จะ เสีย ค่า ธรรมเนียม ให้ รวม เสร็จ ด้วย กัน ตาม ปาก สลุบ ปาก กำปั่น เล็ก ใหญ่ ถ้า มี สิน ค้า เข้า มา ขาย ให้ เรียก เอา วา ละ ๑๗๐ บาท ถ้า ไม่ มี สิน ค้า เข้า มา ขาย ให้ เรียก เอา วา ละ ๑๕๐๐ บาท ไม่ เรียก จังกอบ, ไม่ เรียก ภาษี, ไม่ เรียก ค่า ธรรมเนียม แต่ ผู้ ซื้อ ผู้ ขาย กับ พวก อังกฤษ,

ข้อ ๒ สลุบ กำปั่น ถูก ค้า พวก อังกฤษ มา ถึง นอก หลัง เต่า ให้ ทอด สลุบ กำปั่น อยู่ นอก หลัง เต่า ก่อน นาย สลุบ นาย กำปั่น ต้อง ใช้ คน เอา บาญชี ราย สิ่ง ของ สิน ค้า แต บาญชี คน ปืน ใหญ่ กระสุน

ดิน ดำ เข้า มา แจ้ง แก่ เจ้า เมือง ปาก น้ำ เจ้า เมือง ปาก น้ำ จะ ให้ คน นำ ร่อง กับ ด่วน เอา กฎหมาย อย่าง ธรรมเนียม ออก ไป ให้ นาย สลุบ กำปั่น แล้ว คน นำ ร่อง จะ นำ สลุบ กำปั่น ข้าม หลัง เต่า เข้า มา สลุบ กำปั่น ต้อง ทอด สมอ หยุด อยู่ ใต้ ด่าน ที่ ด่วน บอก ให้,

ข้อ ๓ กรม การ เจ้าพนักงาน ลง ไป ตรวจ สลุบ กำปั่น ให้ ลิ้น เชิง แล้ว เอา บี้ น ใหญ่ กระสุน ดิน ดำ ขึ้น ไว้ ณ เมือง ปาก น้ำ แล้ว เจ้า เมือง ปาก น้ำ จึง จะ ปล่อย ให้ สลุบ กำปั่น ขึ้น มา ณ กรุง,

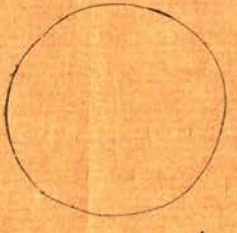
ข้อ ๔ สลุบ กำปั่น ขึ้น มา ทอด ณ กรุง แล้ว เจ้าพนักงาน ลง ไป ตรวจ ใน ลำ สลุบ กำ ปั่น ทำ บาญชี เบีด ระวาง สิ่ง ของ สิน ค้า มี มาก น้อย เท่า ใด แล วัด ปาก สลุบ กำปั่น เสร็จ แล้ว จึง ให้ ลูก ค้า ซื้อ ขาย ตาม สัญญา ไว้ ใน ข้อ ๑ นั้น ถ้า สลุบ กำปั่น จะ บรรทุก สิน ค้า กลับ ไป บรรทุก เต็ม ลำ ข้าม หลัง เต่า ไม่ ได้ ต้อง เช่า เรือ ลำเลียง เอา สิ่งของออก ไป ส่ง เจ้าพนักงาน ด่าน ทาง ไม่ เรียก ค่า ธรรมเนียม ที่ เรือ ลำ เลียง อีก,

ข้อ ๕ ถ้า สลุบ กำปั่น แล เรือ ลำ เลียง บรรทุก สิ่ง ของ เสร็จ ก็ ให้ นาย สลุบ นาย กำ ปั่น ขอ เบิก ด่วน ต่อ เจ้า พระยา พระ คลัง ถ้า ไม่ มี ความ สิ่ง ใด เกี่ยว ข้อง เจ้า พระยา พระคลัง ก็ จะ ให้ เบิก ด่วน โดย เร็ว ถ้า สลุบ กำปั่น ด่วน ลง ไป ถึง เมือง ปาก น้ำ ต้อง ทอด อยู่ น่า ด่าน ที่ เคย ทอด กรมการ เจ้าพนักงาน ลง ไป ตรวจ ใน สลุบ กำปั่น เสร็จ แล้ว จึง รับ เอา บี้ น ใหญ่ กระสุน ดินดำ ด่วน สลุบ กำปั่น ไป,

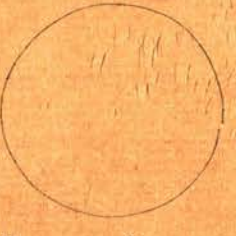
ข้อ ๖ ถูก ค้า แชก ฝรั่ง จีน ซึ่ง เปน พวก อังกฤษ ที่ เข้า มา ค้าขาย ณกรุง นายสลุบ กำปั่น คน งาน กลาสี ถูก เรือ ทั้ง สิ้น ต้อง ทำ ตาม กฎหมาย อย่าง ธรรมเนียม สำหรับ กรุง ไทย แล คำ สัญญา นี้ ทุก ประการ ถ้า ถูก ค้า ทั้ง ปวง มิ ทำ ตาม ข้อ สัญญา นี้ แล ทำ ข่มเหง แก่ ไพร่ บ้าน พล เมือง แล เปน โจร ผู้ ร้าย แล ฆ่า คน ตาย แล หยาบ ช้า เหลือ เกิน ต่อ ขุน นาง เจ้าพนักงาน ผู้ ใหญ่ ผู้ น้อย เปน ข้อ ใหญ่ แต่ สิ่ง ใด สิ่ง หนึ่ง เจ้าพนักงาน สำหรับ ทำ โทษ แก่ ผู้ กระ ทำ ผิด จะ ทำ โทษ ถ้า โทษ ฆ่า คน ตาย เจ้าพนักงาน ชำระ เห็น ว่า ทำ โดย ใจ ร้าย จะ เอา โทษ ถึง ตาย ถ้าโทษ อื่น เปน นาย กำปั่น เปน ต้น หน แล ถูก ค้า ให้ ปรับ ไหม ถ้า เปน ผู้ น้อย ให้ เฆี่ยน จำ ตาม กฎหมาย ณกรุง ไทย ถ้า พวก อังกฤษ จะ เข้า มา ค้า ขาย ณกรุง เจ้า เมือง มั่งกล่า จะ ห้าม ปราม มิ ให้ อังกฤษ พูด จา หยาบ ช้า ณกรุง ถ้า คน ณกรุง ทำ ข่มเหง แก่ พวก อังกฤษ ก็ จะ เอา โทษ ตาม ความ ผิด เหมือน กัน ,

๏ แล คำ สัญญา ๖ ข้อ นี้ ให้ เจ้าพนักงาน ณ กรุง พระ มหา นคร ศรี อยุทธยา แล ถูก ค้า พวก อังกฤษ ทำ ตาม จง ทุก ประการ.

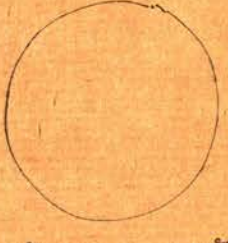
ตรา หลวง



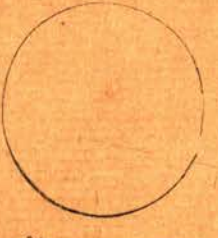
เจ้า พระยา จักรี



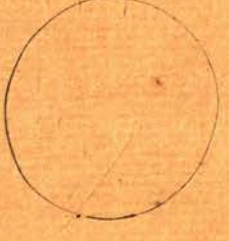
เจ้า พระ ยา อัคคมหา เสนา



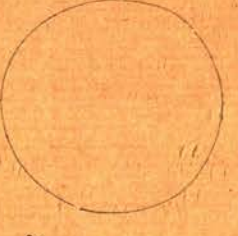
เจ้า พระ ยา พระ คลัง



เจ้า พระ ยา ธรมา



เจ้า พระยา พลเทพ



เจ้า พระ ยา ยมราช

◎ ช้าง นี้ ตรา เจ้า เมือง มั่งกล่า
ตรา ขุน นาง เมือง มั่ง กล่า
ตรา กบี ตันหันตรีบารนี

No. 38.

MANDATE from the Supreme Lord, who is in possession of every good and every dignity, Full of Justice, Great in the City of the Sacred and Great Kingdom of Si-a-yoo-tha-ya, and the place of refuge for all human beings, bestowing blessings, with sacred good will and abundant sacred favor, upon Lord Amherst Governor of Bengal.

With respect to the letter from the Governor of Bengal offering salutations with profound veneration and respect which Captain Burney was appointed Envoy to bring, explaining that the English Nation had raised an Army to go and beat the Country of the Burmese, and stating for the information of Siam that the heart of the Governor of Bengal thinks of the road of friendship, and that the Burmese had become the enemy of both parties. Siam learning that the English had vanquished the Burmese was very joyful. Whereas the Governor of Bengal derived satisfaction from our having ascended the Throne according to the established Laws of the Kingdom, and the Governor of Bengal offers benedictions with sincere wishes, we thank the Governor of Bengal very much. When Marquis Hastings, the former Governor of Bengal, appointed Mr. Crawfurd an Envoy to come and desire, with the respect suitable to the English Nation, to establish friendship with Siam, the former Supreme Lord possessing every good and every dignity and Great in the City of the Sacred and Great Kingdom of Si-a-yoo-tha-ya, entertaining sacred favor towards the English Nation, granted that the Envoy should be met and received according to the customs of (suitably to) the friendship which had begun to be formed between the Siamese and the English nations. Friendship was then established and brought down.

And now the Right Honorable Lord Amherst Governor of Bengal is disposed to think of the former friendship, and has appointed an Envoy to come and renew and augment friendship, and now the Siamese and English have increased friendship much beyond what it formerly was, according to the manner desired by the Governor of Bengal. In that letter it is said that only one thing is necessary, that the friendship between the English and Siamese may be prolonged and that the English have no cause to covet or take anything belonging to Siam. On the part of Siam also, it cherishes friendship, does not meditate to disturb or take anything in any place or Country belonging to the English, and desires only to possess friendship, and that the friendship which exists may be confirmed and handed down to futurity, and that Merchants on both sides may be able to visit and trade with freedom and facility. Whereas the Governor of Bengal applies to make a Treaty that friendship may be established and increased, and that the countries subordinate on both sides may be able to live in peace, with sincere and mutual friendship, we think this measure correct and very proper, and conformable to the established rules of friendship. Whatever measures will establish and prolong friendship between the English and Siamese will be but beneficial to both parties. We directed the Ministers of high rank and Chao Phya Ligor Sithaurat * to examine together with Captain Burney every matter and they have agreed upon and settled the whole business. Now let Chao Phya Phra Klang Minister of high rank transmit a letter from his Department according to the customs of Siam. May the Governor of Bengal and the whole English nation ever live in peace and tranquillity, according to their wishes. The road of friendship between the Siamese and English will be prolonged and perpetuated without knowing end or termination. The subject of this Mandate written on Monday

* Dup: copy has "Sithamrat."

the 6th day of the 8th increasing Moon according to the Siamese era 1188 year Dog 8 (10: July 1826).

A literal translation from the Siamese.

(Signed) H. BURNEY Captain

Envoy to the Court of Siam.

No. 39.

LETTER from Akho-maha-sena Chao Phya Phra Klang Thipody, great man in the City of the Sacred and Great Kingdom of Si-a-yoo-tha-ya, showing matters with joy to the Right Honorable Lord Amherst Governor of Bengal.

With respect to the Right Honble. Lord Amherst Governor of Bengal having, in the Siamese era 1188 year Dog 8, appointed Captain Henry Burney an Envoy and Representative to take charge of a Letter and offerings, and visit the City of the Sacred and Great Kingdom of Si-a-yoo-tha-ya, as soon as Captain Burney's Ship arrived at Men-ung Samooth proKan, I aided and assisted and submitted the matter with profound veneration to the Supreme Lord who is in possession of every good and every dignity The God Boodh, who dwells over every head, who is full of sacred grace and justice, is most honored, Excellent, Exalted, and most high in the Sacred and Great Kingdom of Si-a-yoo-tha-ya, and he was fully informed and I arranged the Officers to form a procession of Boats to go down and receive the Right Honble. the Governor of Bengal's Letter and Captain Burney the Envoy, and to bring them up to the City of the Sacred and Great Kingdom of Si-a-yoo-tha-ya, according to the customs of a great country forming a proper and suitable friendship. The Supreme Lord, The God Boodh, who dwells over every head, granted upon the head and brain for Captain Burney the Envoy to be admitted to an audience, to Salute with profound veneration conformably * to the customs of the Kingdom. The Articles were tendered on the head and brain, and matters submitted according to every particular that was in the Right Honble. the Governor of Bengal's letter. The Supreme Lord, The God Boodh, who dwells over every head, gave orders to go to the Sacred First Petitioned

* Dup: copy has "according."

(Wangna) who is also high and spoke to and examined Captain Burney and enquired after Lord Amherst Governor of Bengal, with great and abundant sacred favor, and whatever at the audience Captain Burney submitted with profound veneration, and the Supreme Lord, The God Boodh, who dwells over every head, ordered and spoke, are known to Captain Burney in every particular and it was granted upon the head and brain for the Officers to prepare such a house as as that in which foreigners are accustomed to reside, for the accommo lation of Captain Burney, and Silver was every month bestowed, with abundant grace, to pay for the expence of his food. And I introduced Captain Burney to an audience to salute with profound veneration The Incomprehensible to the head and brain, The Sacred Beauty of the Palace, Infallible and Serene there according to the customs of the Country. The Articles were tendered and matters submitted according to every particular that was in the Right Honorable the Governor of Bengal's Letter. The Incomprehensible to the Head and Brain, The Sacre l Beauty of the Palace, Serene and Infallible there ordered and granted upon the head and brain, spoke to, and examined Captain Burney and enquired after Lord Amherst Governor of Bengal with great and abundant sacred favor, and granted upon the head and brain, and bestowed Silver every month for Captain Burney to pay for the expences of his food. And at this time that Captain Burney visited the City, I have met and received him, and looked after him with joy. I have aided and assisted him in every particular, nothing has been wanting.

When Marquis Hastings the former Governor of Bengal, appointed in the Siamese era 1184 year Horse 4, Mr. Crawfurd an Envoy to come to the City and desire, with the respect suitable to the English nation, to establish friendship, the former Supreme Lord, possessing every good and every dignity Full

of Sacred grace and justice, Most honored and most high in the City of the Sacred and Great Kingdom of Si-a-yoo-tha-ya, entertaining sacred favor towards the English nation, permitted Mr. Crawfurd the Envoy to be received according to the customs of a great Country, beginning to form a proper and suitable friendship. The Siamese and English established and brought down friendship. And now the Right Honble. the Governor of Bengal is disposed to think of the former friendship, and has appointed Captain Burney an Envoy to come and renew and augment friendship. Friendship between the English and Siamese has become much more intimate than before with mutual respect and affection and the Right Honble. the Governor of Bengal sent to explain that the English nation had raised an Army to go and beat the Burmese and to state for the information of Siam that the heart of the Governor of Bengal thinks of the road of friendship, and that the country of the Burmese had become an enemy to both parties. Siam learning that the English had made war against and vanquished the Burmese received much joy. Whereas the Right Honble. the Governor of Bengal had derived satisfaction from the Supreme Lord, The God Boodh, who dwells over every head, possessing sacred virtue and highest dignity, having ascended the Throne and been crowned according to the established Laws of the Kingdom, ruling the people under heaven * and the whole included within the dominion of the City of the great and Sacred Kingdom of Si-a-yoo-tha-ya and the Right Honble. the Governor of Bengal offers benedictions with sincere wishes, that The Supreme Lord The God Boodh, who dwells over every head, may possess sacred continuance, The great and subordinate Officers of Siam received joy and they exceedingly thank The Right Honorable the Governor of Bengal. And the subject of the Letter which the Right Honble. the Governor of Bengal has now sent,

* Dup: copy here inserts "The Slaves."

states that only one thing is necessary that the friendship between the English and Siamese may be prolonged and increased and that the English have no occasion to covet or take any thing belonging to Siam. Siam is thankful for this, and agrees to what is said as to fixing friendship and conforming and perpetuating it in the manner here mentioned. Siam does not meditate to disturb or take any thing in any place or country belonging to the English, and desires to cherish friendship and that the friendship which exists, may be confirmed and that Merchants and Traders on both sides may be able to visit and trade peaceably and freely. Whereas the Right Honble. the Governor of Bengal desires to form a Treaty, that friendship may be fixed and increased and that the countries subordinate on both sides may be able to live in peace and not disturb each other respecting any event whatever because they would be engaged in Treaty together, The Supreme Lord, The God Boodh, who dwells over every head, granted upon the head and brain, spoke and ordered, saying, we think to form a Treaty in this manner is correct, and very proper and according to the established customs. Friendship would be sincere, firm and perpetuated. Let the Ministers, great men, and Chao Phya Ligor Sithamrat confer with Captain Burney in a friendly manner. The Ministers then, and Chao Phya Ligor Sithamrat jointly examined with Captain Burney the measures which would fix and prolong the friendship between the English and Siamese and prove beneficial only to both parties. They agreed upon and mutually approved of the matter and formed two Copies of a Treaty, concluding it on Monday the 6: day of the 8th increasing Moon according to the Siamese era 1188 year Dog 8 & (10 July) according to the Christian era 1826. The Ministers and Captain Burney have sealed and authenticated the Treaty. Captain Burney takes one Copy to Bengal and every matter is explained in that Treaty. And the Articles

which the Right Honble. the Governor of Bengal tendered and sent as tokens of respect and remembrance to the Supreme Lord the God Boodh who dwells over every head and to the Incomprehensible to the head and brain The Sacred Beauty of the Palace Serene and Infallible there, they granted upon the head and brain for the Officers to receive charge of with friendship. And the Supreme Lord the God Boodh who dwells over every head and the Incomprehensible to the head and brain the Sacred Beauty of the Palace Serene and Infallible there granted upon the head and brain for the Officers to prepare productions of Siam and give them to Captain Burney to take, which they bestow upon Lord Amherst Governor of Bengal with sacred good will and abundant sacred favor.

And the Articles which the Right Honble. the Governor of Bengal sent and gave me with friendship I have received and taken with thanks and I have prepared productions of Siam and given them to Captain Burney to deliver to the Right Honble. the Governor of Bengal in a friendly manner. A list and account of all the Articles I have drawn out and one copy I send for explanation *. I beg may the Right Honble. The Governor of Bengal and the whole English Nation ever live in peace and tranquillity. The road of friendship between the Siamese and English will be confirmed and continued in future as long as the sun and Moon endure. Letter comes on Monday the 6th day of the 8th increasing Moon according to the Siamese era 1188 year dog 8th (10: July 1826).

* No. 40.

A literal translation from the Siamese

(Signed) H. BURNEY Captain

Envoy to the Court of Siam.

List of the Articles which Captain Henry Burney brought and presented to His Majesty the King of Siam from the Right Honble. Lord Amherst Governor of Bengal, and which the proper Officers received.

1 Tonjon
1 Diamond Ring
1 Pair of Ear-rings of European fashion
1 * Comb (Tiara) of European fashion
1 Brooch of Do. Do.
1 Chain of pure gold
1 Pair of Spectacles with Green glass
1 Do. Do. with white glass
1 Pair of green Glass Branches with shades (Chandeliers)
1 Pair of Glass Candlesticks with gilt branches (Candelabras)
1 small cut glass Box
1 Opal Box
1 Piece of Green Broad Cloth
1 Do. of yellow Do. Do.
1 Do. of Scarlet Do. Do.
1 Do. of Lotus colour (Pink) Velvet
1 Dress of Brown colour with gold edging at the bottom and sides
5 Pieces of Gold and Silver flowered white cloth
2 Dresses of colored cloth with gold flowers
1 Piece of striped gold cloth (Bakla)
1 Roll of * Tat cloth with raised flowers
6 Pieces of Kim Khaub
4 Pieces of White Muslin
10 Do. of Broad Cotton Cloth
20 Do. of Bengal Do. Do.
1 New fashioned fowling piece (Gun with five Barrels)
1 Pair of Pistols (with five Barrels each)
2 Fine Razors
4 Small clasp Knives
8 Pairs of Scissors.

* Dup: copy has "Corset."

* Dup: copy has "Tah."

The King most graciously ordered the Officers to prepare and deliver to Captain Burney to take as His Majesty's gift to the Right Honble. the Govr. of Bengal

1 Pecul of Aguila Wood
10 Do. of Tin
150 Do. of Sapan Wood
250 Do. of Sugar

Articles presented to His Highness the Wang-na from the Right Honble. Lord Amherst Govr. of Bengal and received by the proper Officers

1 Palankeen
1 Diamond Ring
1 Pair of Ear-rings of European fashion
1 Brooch of European fashion
1 Chain of pure gold
1 small cut glass Box
1 Opal Box
1 Pair of Spectacles with green glass
1 Do. Do. with white Do.
1 Piece of Green Broad Cloth
1 Do. of yellow Do.
1 Do. of Scarlet Do.
1 Do. of Lotus colour Velvet
3 Do. of Gold and Silver flowered white cloth
3 Do. of Kim Khaubs
3 Do. of White Muslin
10 Do. of Broad white cloth
20 Do. of Bengal Do.
1 Fowling Piece
1 Pair of Pistols
2 Razors
3 Clasp Knives
3 Pairs of Scissors

The Wang-na most graciously ordered the officers to prepare and deliver to Captain Burney to take as His Highness gift to the Right Honble. the Governor of Bengal

9 Elephants Teeth weighing 2 Peculs
21 Peculs of Tin
205 Do. of Sugar*

* In the Copy of the List furnished, 25 peculs only are mentioned by mistake.

Captain Burney remained at Bangkok 7 months and His Majesty the King of Siam bestowed upon him 3 Catties of Silver (240 Ticals) every month for his Table expences and His Highness the Wang-na bestowed upon him every month for the same purpose 1 Catty and 10 Tumelings of Silver (120 Ticals).

Articles presented from the Right Honble. the Governor of Bengal to Prince Krom Meun Surin Thirak

1 Emerald Ring
1 Pair of Spectacles
1 White Shawl
1 Piece of Kim Khaub
4 Pieces of Blue Cloth
3 Do. of Europe Chintz
1 Do. of Broad white Cloth
4 Do. of Bengal Do.
2 Do. of Gold flowered white Cloth
1 Do. of Do. red Cloth
1 Do. of Green Broad Cloth
1 Do. of Scarlet Do.
2 Guns with Stocks cut (Fowling Pieces)
4 Small Muskets (Carbines)
1 Razor
1 Clasp Knife
2 Prs. of Scissors.

His Highness received the same and ordered the Officers to prepare and give to Captain Burney to take and deliver to the Right Honble. the Governor of Bengal.

* Dup: copy has "20"

* 40 Peculs of Sugar.

* Dup: copy has "Keom Meum Rownarat"

Articles presented from the Right Honble. the Governor of Bengal to Prince *Krom Meun Rak Ronnorat.

1 White Shawl
1 Piece of Kim Khaub
4 Do. of Blue Cloth
3 Do. of Europe Chintz
1 Do. of Broad white cloth
4 Do. of Bengal Do.
1 Do. of Gold flowered white cloth
1 Dress of Do. Do.
1 Piece of White Muslin
1 Do, of Green Broad cloth
1 Do. of Scarlet \ Do.
2 Fowling Pieces
4 Small Muskets
1 Razor
1 Clasp Knife
2 Pairs of Scissors.

His Highness received the same and ordered the Officers to prepare and give to Captain Burney to deliver to the Right Honble. the Governor of Bengal

* Dup: copy has "26"

*36 Peculs of Sugar.

Articles ordered by the Right Honble. the Governor of Bengal for Captain Burney to bring and give to Chao Phya *Ophai Phoo Thon Akmahaseva Thibody Choo Jai (Chakri)

* Dup: copy has "Ophar Phoo Thon Akmahasina Thebody Phoo Jai (Chak-kri.)

1 Piece of Kim Khaub
1 White Shawl
1 Piece of gold flowered white cloth
1 Do. of Broad white cloth
4 Do. of Bengal white cloth
1 Do. of Long cloth *
4 Do. of Blue cloth
2 Do. of Europe chintz
½ Do. of Green cloth
½ Do. of Scarlet Do.

* Dup: copy has "Jacenet Muslin."

1 Fowling Piece
2 small Muskets
1 Pair of Spectacles
2 Razors
1 Clasp Knife
2 Pairs of Scissors.

The Chakri received the same and prepared and delivered to Captain Burney to take and present to the Right Honble. the Governor of Bengal

4 Elephants Teeth weighing 1 Pecul
15 Peculs of Sugar.

Articles presented from the Right Honble. the Governor of Bengal by Captain Burney to Chao Phya Akhomahasena Thibody Phoo Jai (Kalahom).

1 Piece of Kim Khaub
1 White Shawl
1 Piece of gold flowered white cloth
1 Do. of Broad white cloth
1 Do. of White Muslin
4 Do. of Bengal white Cloth
4 Do. of Blue Cloth
2 Do. of Europe Chintz
½ Do. of Green Broad Cloth
½ Do. of Scarlet Do.
2 small Muskets
1 Pair of Spectacles
2 Razors
1 Clasp Knife
2 Pairs of Scissors
1 Turnscrew.

The Kalahom received the same and prepared and delivered to Captain Burney to take and present to the Right Honble. the Governor of Bengal

20 Peculs of Sugar.

Articles presented from the Right Honble. the Governor of Bengal by Captain Burney to Chao Phya Phra Klang Akmahasena Thibody Phoo Jai

2 Pieces of Kim Khaub
6 Do. of Broad white Cloth
1 Piece of Green Broad cloth
1 Piece of Yellow Broad cloth
1 Do. of Scarlet Do. Do.
2 Pairs of Spectacles
2 Pieces of gold flowered white cloth
1 Double Barrelled Fowling piece
1 Pair of Pistols
1 Chain of pure gold
1 Pair of Emerald Ear-rings
1 Diamond Ring
1 Pair of chains for Bracelets
2 Fine Razors
3 Clasp Knives
4 Pairs of Scissors.

The Phra Klang received the same and prepared and gave to Captain Burney to take and present to the Right Honble. the Governor of Bengal.
180 Peculs of Sugar.

Articles presented from the Right Honble. the Governor of Bengal by Captain Burney to Phya Si-phi-phut Ratonorat Kosa.

1 Dress of white cloth with gold sprigs
1 Piece of gold flowered white cloth
1 Do. of Long Cloth
1 Do. of White Muslin
1 Do. of Blue cloth
¼ Do. of Green Broad cloth
¼ Do. of Scarlet Do. Do.
1 Pair of Spectacles
1 Fowling Piece.

2 Small Muskets
2 Razors
1 Clasp Knife
2 Pairs of Scissors.

Phya Si-phi-phut received the same and prepared and delivered to Captain Burney to take and present to the Right Honble. the Governor of Bengal

20 Peculs of Sugar.

Articles presented from the Right Honble. the Governor of Bengal by Captain Burney to Phya Krai * Kasa-Thibody.

* Dup: copy has "Kosa."

1 Black Shawl
1 Piece of gold flowered White Cloth
1 Do. of Broad white cloth
5 Do. of Blue Cloth
5 Do. of Europe Chintz
2 Dresses of Broad Cloth
6 Muskets
2 Razors
1 Clasp Knife
2 Pairs of Scissors.

Phya Krai received the same and prepared and delivered to Captain Burney to take and present to the Right Honble. the Governor of Bengal

16 Peculs of Sugar.

Articles presented from the Right Honble. the Governor of Bengal by Captain Burney to Chao Phya Maha Yotha

1 Shawl
1 Piece of Broad white cloth
6 Muskets

2 Pieces of Europe Chintz
2 Dresses of Scarlet Broad Cloth
1 Clasp Knife
1 Bottle of Sandal Wood Oil
1 Bullet Mould
1 Pair of Scissors.

Chao Phya Maha Yotha received the same and prepared and delivered to Captain Burney to take and present to the Right Honble. the Governor of Bengal

20 Peculs of Sugar.

Articles presented from the Right Honble. the Governor of Bengal by Captain Burney to Phya Phi-phut Kosa Rat Bolat.

1 White Shawl
1 Piece of Broad White Cloth
2 Do. of Bengal Do. Do.
2 Do. of Blue Cloth
2 Do. of Europe Chintz
½ Do. of Green Broad Cloth
½ Do. of Scarlet Do. Do.
1 Fowling Piece
2 Small Muskets
2 Razors
2 Pairs of Scissors.

Phya Phi-phut received the same and prepared and delivered to Captain Burney to take and present to the Right Honble. the Governor of Bengal

2 Elephants Teeth weighing 36 Catties
7 Catties of Aguila Wood
15 Peculs of Sugar

Articles presented from the Right Honble. the Governor of Bengal by Captain Burney to Phya Thep Worochhoon Rat-bolat.

1 White Shawl
2 Pieces of Europe Chintz
1 Fowling Piece
2 Razors
1 Clasp Knife
1 Pair of Scissors.

Phya Thep received the same and prepared and delivered to Captain Burney to take and present to the Right Honble. the Governor of Bengal.

* Not received by the Mission at any time.

7 Peculs of Sugar *

Articles presented from the Right Honble. the Governor of Bengal by Captain Burney to Phya Choola Rat Montri.

1 Shawl Handkerchief
1 Dress with gold border
4 Pieces of Blue Cloth
1 Piece of Broad White Cloth
1 Piece of Sana Cloth
2 Dresses of Scarlet Broad Cloth
1 Do. of Green Do. Do.
6 Chintz Handkerchiefs
1 Fowling Piece
2 Muskets
1 Razor
2 Pairs of Scissors
1 Pair of Spectacles.

Phya Choola received the same and prepared and delivered to Captain Burney to take and present to the Right Honble. the Governor of Bengal.

10 Peculs of Sugar.

Articles presented from the Right Honble. the Governor of Bengal by Captain Burney to Phya Wisooth Kosa Rat-bolat.

1 Shawl.
1 Piece of broad White cloth
5 Do. of Bengal white cloth
2 Do. of Europe Chintz
3 Do. of Blue Cloth
1 Do. of Broad Cloth
1 Pair of Spectacles
2 Fowling Pieces.
1 Razor
1 Clasp Knife
1 Pair of Scissors.

Phya Wisooth received the same and prepared and delivered to Captain Burney to take and present to the Right Honble. the Governor of Bengal.

20 Peculs of Sugar.

Translated from the Siamese

(Signed) H. BURNEY Captain

Envoy to the Court of Siam.

Besides the Presents above enumerated the following were given by and returned to Captain Burney.

To the King of Siam

1 Pair of Brass Six Pounders
6 Blunderbusses
2 Pieces of Kim Khaub
1 White Shawl
A Set of Pink Topaz Ornaments.

Returned

9 Peculs of Tin
60 Peculs of Sugar.

To the Wangna

4 Blunderbusses
1 Piece of Kim Khaub
1 White Shawl
A Set of Pink Topaz Ornaments.

Returned

8 Peculs of Tin
8 Peculs of Sugar.

To the Phra Klang

2 Blunderbusses
2 English Saddles
7 Pairs of Spectacles
1 Case of Mathematical Instruments
1 Opal Box
1 Cut Glass Box
1 Piece of Pink Velvet
2 Do. of Europe Chintz
1 Watch to his son and 1 to his Nephew
2 Bottles of Essence of Roses
1 Do. of Sandal wood Oil
4 Plated Bottle Stands.

Returned

40 Peculs of Sugar.

To the Raja of Ligor.

30 Pieces of coarse Cloth
2 Shawls to his Wife
2 Watches to his Sons
1 Gold Necklace
1 Do. to his Son
1 Do. pair of Bracelets
1 Ruby Ring
1 Piece of Scarlet Broad cloth
6 Do. of Blue Cotton
4 Do. of Chintz
2 Do. of Long Cloth
1 Do. of Jaconet Muslin
1 Do. of Checked Muslin

2 Do. of Gold flowered Do.
2 Do. of Kim Khaub
1 Do. of Crimson Velvet
1 Opal Box
1 Glass Box
3 Pairs of Scissors
2 Pen Knives
2 Razors
6 Bottles of Lavender
1 Bottle of smelling Salts
1 Do. of Eau de Cologne
1 Bullet Mould and Turnscrew
1 Bottle of Sandal Wood Oil
2 Small Do. of Essences
2 Fowling Pieces
2 Muskets.

Returned.

20 Peculs of Sugar, and Provisions for the use of the Mission.

To the Raja of Singora

1 Piece of Scarlet Broad Cloth
1 Do. of Silver flowered Muslin
4 Do. of Europe Chintz
6 Do. of Blue Cloth
1 Do. of Long Cloth
1 Shawl
6 Muskets
2 Razors
2 Pairs of Scissors
1 Penknife.

Returned

9 Peculs and 89 Catties of Sugar.

* Dup: copy has "Phya."

To Raja Phi-phut Kosa

1 Diamond and Emerald Ring
1 Cruet Stand
Some Ceylon Jewellery
1 Pair of Spectacles.

Returned

1 Rhinoceros's Horn.

Radsithi received the same presents as his father, Phya Choola, but, as usual, made no returns. Presents of Ceylon Jewellery, Shawls, Cloth and Fowling Pieces were also made to the Native Christian Port Captain, and Interpreters, and to several other petty Officers belonging to the Raja of Ligor as well as to the Court of Siam. These persons were in no circumstances to make returns.

Money was privately given to only 3 persons, and not beyond a Sum of Spanish Dollars 600.

THE following is a general Account of the Presents received by the Mission.

	Aguila Wood	Sapan Wood	Ivory		Tin		Sugar	
	lbs.	Peculs.	Peculs.	Catties.	Peculs.	Catties.	Peculs.	Catties.
King of Siam								
To the Governor General	120	150	...		45	—	240	—
To the Honble. the Governor of P. W. Island	...	...	...		...		12	—
To Mr. Crawfurd ...	...	...	...		...		13	—
To Captain Burney ...	...	...	...		9	—	60	—
Wangna								
To the Governor General	...	...	2	8	21	29	205	—
Mr. Secretary Swinton	...	...	...		...		40	—
The Honble. the Governor of P. W. Island	...	...	...		...		15	—
Captain Burney ...	...	...	...		7	—	8	—
Chao Phya Phra Klang								
To the Governor General	...	...	...		...		180	—
Mr. Secretary Swinton	...	...	...		...		15	—
The Honble. the Governor of P. W. Island	...	...	...		...		15	—
Mr. Crawfurd	16	...	...		...		...	
Captain Burney ...	...	...	...		...		40	—
Prince Krom Meun Surin	...	...	...		...		40	—
Prince Krom Meun Rak	...	...	...		...		36	—
Chao Phya Chakri ...	...	...	1	—	...		15	—
Chao Phya Kalahom ...	...	...	...		...		20	—
Chao Phya Maha Yotha	...	...	...		...		20	—
Phya Si-phi-phut ...	...	...	...		...		20	—
Phya Kray Kosa ...	...	...	...		...		16	—
Phya Phi-phut Kosa ...	9	...	—	36	...		15	—
Phya Choola ...	...	...	...		...		10	—
Chao Phya Ligor ...	...	...	...		...		20	—
Phya Singora ...	...	...	...		...		9	89
Total	154	150	3	44	82	29	1064	89

1 Rhinoceros's Horn
2520 Ticals from the King and Wangna.

(Signed) H. BURNEY Captain
Envoy to the Court of Siam.

No. 41.

LETTER from His Excellency Chao Phya Phra Klang Minister of high rank at Bangkok represents with good will to the Right Honble. Lord Amherst Governor of Bengal.

With respect to the Right Honorable the Governor of Bengal having appointed Captain Henry Burney an Envoy to come and establish friendship with Siam, I afforded him assistance, took care of him, and nothing was wanting. And with respect to the men and Pegu families of Tavoy, Mergui and Tenasserim, who came in and were living at Bangkok and Ch'hoomphon, when the English forces first attacked the Burmese Countries, some of these people, who had relatives at Bangkok, came in of themselves, and some the Guards and Detachments in order to gain favor, seized and persuaded to come in. There were upwards of a thousand, and they were all living at Bangkok and Ch'hoomphon. His Sacred Majesty the King of Siam gave orders formerly, saying if the English conclude the War with Ava and remain in peaceable possession of those countries, such of these people as desire to return home may be allowed to do as they please, but whilst the English and Burmese continue at war, these people cannot be released Perhaps their country may again belong to the Burmese. Siam lives on bad terms with the Burmese, who are enemies. Let such of these people as have relatives reside with them, and let such as have not, go and work for their subsistence in the same manner as their own countrymen. When Captain Burney arrived at Bangkok he presented a letter to the Ministers of high rank, stating, that the English had conquered Martaban, Mergui, Tavoy and Tenasserim, which had become their possessions, and which they are desirous of establishing as places of trade and that the Right Honble. the Governor of Bengal had ordered

him humbly to submit to his Majesty the King of Siam a request for these people to be granted, that they might return and live in their own countries. The representation contained in Captain Burney's letter was humbly submitted to His Majesty who was pleased to order, saying, Martaban, Mergui, Tavoy and Tenasserim having become the possession of the English, with whom the Siamese have established friendship, and Lord Amherst Governor of Bengal having applied for all these people, for the sake of His Lordship's friendship, let the Ministers release all the Peguers and people of Tavoy, Mergui and Tenasserim, who came in and are living at Bangkok * Ch'hoomphon, and any that desire to return to their own Countries let them go as they please. An order was sent to the Governor of Ch'hoomphon and he released 237 Men who went away. And those who were at Bangkok, amounting to 1201 were put on board the Boats and sent away by the road of Bangnarom. Those who have relatives at Bangkok and at Ch'hoomphon and are content to remain with them, and not to return, amount to 126. The whole has been settled and no difficulty remains. I send this report that the Right Honble. the Governor of Bengal may be informed in a friendly manner. Letter written on Monday the 6th day of the 8 : increasing Moon according to the Siamese era 1188 year dog 8. (10th July 1826)

* Dup: copy inserts "and"

Translated from the Siamese

(Signed) H. BURNEY Captain

Envoy to the Court of Siam.

No. 42.

LETTER from His Excellency Chao Phya Phra Klang Minister of high rank at Bangkok represents with good will to the Right Honble. Lord Amherst Governor of Bengal.

With respect to the Right Honorable the Governor of Bengal having appointed Captain Burney an Envoy to come and establish friendship with Siam, I afforded him assistance, took care of him and nothing was wanting. When Captain Burney arrived in Siam he presented a Letter to the Ministers of high rank, stating that 6 Christians, who had been brought in and confined in irons at Bangkok, are Native Portuguese born in Bengal, and that the Right Honble. the Governor of Bengal had ordered him humbly to submit to His Majesty the King of Siam a request for these 6 Christians to be granted, that they might return and live in their own Country. The representation contained in Captain Burney's letter was humbly submitted to His Majesty, who was pleased to order, saying: When these 6 Christians in the Siamese era 1182 year Serpent 2, embarked on board a Brig with some Burmese in charge of a Burmese Letter and came to raise an Army at Tavoy for the purpose of attacking Siam, and * our Detachments went out to watch and seize men, in order that they might be examined and intelligence collected respecting the public service; the latter fell in with and captured the Brig together with these 6 Christians and some Burmese, and found the letter which the Burmese were conveying directing an Army to be assembled. The Detachment sent these 6 Christians with the Burmese down to Bangkok when it became known that the Burmese were raising an Army to come and injure Siam. These 6 Christians were considered at Bangkok as subjects of the Burmese and enemies, and they were accordingly confined. Now

* Dup: copy has "one Detachment."

Captn. Burney states these Christians were born in Bengal, that they belong to the English, that they went to trade at Rangoon, and the Burmese forced them, without their being able to refuse, to take charge of their letter, and that the Right Honble. the Governor of Bengal had ordered him to submit an application for their release and return. His Majesty the King of Siam, regarding the Right Honble. the Governor of Bengal with abundant favor, and for the sake of His Lordship's friendship, was pleased to order that such of these 6 Christians as desired to return might be allowed to go as they please. One of them is content to remain at Bangkok, and the other 5 have been given to Captain Burney to take away. I now send this report that the Right Honble. the Governor of Bengal may be informed in a friendly manner. Letter written on Monday the 6th day of the 8th increasing Moon according to the Siamese era 1188 year Dog 8th (10th July 1826).

Translated from the Siamese.

(Sinned) H. BURNEY Captain

Envoy to the Court of Siam

No. 43.

LETTER from His Excellency Chao Phya Phra Klang Minister of high rank at Bangkok to George Swinton Esquire in Bengal.

With respect to the Right Honble. Lord Amherst Governor of Bengal having in the Siamese era 1188 year Dog 8, appointed Captain Henry Burney an Envoy and Representative, to come to Bangkok, with a letter and presents, for the purpose of renewing and improving the former friendship between the English Nation and the Siamese, and with respect to the letter sent by Mr. Swinton, I afforded assistance, and humbly submitted the matter for the information of His Sacred, most Exalted, Just, Gracious and Excellent Majesty the King of Siam, who, regarding the English Nation with exceeding favor, was most graciously pleased to order Captain Burney, the Envoy, to be met and received according to the customs of a great Country forming a suitable and proper friendship. I introduced Captain Burney to an Audience to salute with profound veneration His Majesty the King and His Highness the Wangna. The presents were most humbly tendered, and every part of the contents of the Letter submitted. Now that Captain Burney visited Bangkok I have received and attended to him with kindness, and assisted him in every particular, nothing has been wanting. Whereas Mr. Swinton derived satisfaction from the accession of His Majesty to the Throne and Government of the Country according to the established Laws of the Kingdom of Siam, and Mr. Swinton offers benedictions that His Majesty the King may have long life and prosperity—The King of Siam was most graciously pleased to say as Mr. Swinton entertains sincere regard and good will towards us, we thank him. May he ever live in peace and tranquility.

In the present letter from Mr. Swinton it is mentioned, that the English Nation desires only to establish friendship with the Siamese. The Siamese also will cherish the subsisting friendship, make it increase and not suffer it to be destroyed. Every matter respecting the friendship, which has been established between the English and the Siamese is explained in the Treaty. And the Chain of pure Gold, Ring formed like a Butterfly, four pieces of Muslin, 6 pieces of Blue Cotton and 10 Stands of Arms, which Mr. Swinton tendered to the Wangna, His Highness was graciously pleased to order the Officers to receive, and to prepare and deliver to Captain Burney\ 40 Peculs of Sugar which His Highness bestows upon Mr. Swinton with abundant favor. I have received with thanks the 3 pieces of broad white Cotton, 6* pieces of Blue Cotton, 1 piece of* Jamdani and 10 Stands of Muskets, which Mr. Swinton sent by Captain Burney in token of remembrance and respect. And I have delivered to Captain Burney 15 Peculs of Sugar. May Mr. Swinton receive the same in a friendly manner. Letter written on Monday the 6th day of the 8th increasing Moon according to the Siamese era 1188 year Dog 8 (10th July 1826).

* The Dup: copy has "4"

: * The Dup: copy inserts "white."

Translated from the Siamese.

(Signed) H. BURNEY Captain

Envoy to the Court of Siam.

No. 44.

LETTER from His Excellency Chao Phya Phra Klang Minister of high rank to the Honorable Robert Fullerton Esquire Governor of Prince of Wales Island.

With respect to the letter given to Captain Burney to bring, stating that the Governor of Prince of Wales Island wishes and desires to form friendship and amity—that the Right Honble. the Governor of Bengal had appointed Captain Burney an Envoy to to come and explain the original cause of the War between the English and the Burmese—that His Lordship desired to submit the same for the information of His Sacred and Exalted Majesty the King of Siam and of that of every high Officer and public Servant, in order that friendship might not be destroyed but become only confirmed and augmented —if any event occurred, information could be communicated to Siam in a friendly manner. Every subject contained in that letter from the Governor of P. W. Island I have fully understood. As soon as Captain Burney's ship arrived at Memung Samooth prokan (Paknam) I afforded assistance, and humbly submitted the matter to the Sacred feet, for the information of his Sacred, most Exalted, Just, Gracious and Excellent Majesty, the King of Siam, Who, regarding the Right Honble. the Governor of Bengal with abundant favor, was most graciously pleased to order the envoy to be met and received according to the customs of a great country forming a suitable and proper friendship. I introduced Captain Burney the Envoy * to an Audience, to salute with profound veneration his Majesty the King, and his Highness the Wangna, and the Articles from the Right Honble. the Governor of Bengal, and from the Governors (*sic*) of P. W. Island and Singapore were most humbly tendered, and every part of the contents of the Letter submitted. The King and the Wangna were most graciously

* The Dup: copy has "to the presence."

pleased to address Captain Burney, the Envoy, and to enquire with abundant favor, after the Right Honble. the Governor of Bengal and the Governors * of P. W. Island and Singapore; and they declared The Right Honble. the Governor of Bengal, having deputed an Envoy to come and desire to renew and increase friendship, to explain that the English have sent an Army to beat the Burmese, and to inform Siam that the Governor of Bengal wishes to establish friendship, His Majesty is pleased to return many thanks to His Lordship. And the Governors of P. W. Island and Singapore entertaining sincere regard and good will, His Majesty was pleased to thank them, and to say, May the Right Honble. the Governor of Bengal ever live in peace and tranquillity, and may the Governors of P. W. Island and Singapore also, together with the whole English nation, ever remain in peace and tranquillity. Friendship between the Siamese and English will be confirmed and increased far beyond what it formerly was, without chance of interruption.

* (sic.)

And now that Captain Burney visited Bangkok I have received and attended to him with kindness, and assisted him in every particular, nothing has been wanting. In the present letter from the Right Honble. the Governor of Bengal it is mentioned that the His Lordship desires that friendship between the English and Siamese may be confirmed, prolonged and increased, and that the English have no cause to covet or take any thing belonging to Siam. His Lordship applied to conclude a Treaty in order that friendship might be fixed and improved, and that the Countries subordinate on either side might live in peace, and not disturb each other respecting any point which would be settled by mutual stipulation. His Majesty the King of Siam was most graciously pleased to observe: We approve of this manner, which the Right Honble. the Governor of Bengal proposes, of

concluding a Treaty; it is very correct and conformable to established customs. Friendship would be sincere, firm and perpetual, and Merchants on both sides would be able to visit and trade together with freedom and facility. Siam also does not meditate to disturb or take anything in any place or country belonging to the English. Let the Ministers of high rank and Chao Phya Ligor Sithamrat confer with Captain Burney in a friendly manner. The Ministers then and Chao Phya Ligor Sithamrat examined with Captain Burney whatever might fix and prolong friendship between the Siamese and English, and prove beneficial to both parties only. Having agreed upon, and mutually approved of the terms, they made two Copies of a Treaty, concluding it on Monday the 6th day of the 8th increasing Moon according to the Siamese era 1188 year Dog 8 and (10 July 1826) according to the Christian era 1826. Every matter is shewn in that Treaty, and the Ministers and Captain Burney have put their Seals to it. One Copy is at Bangkok and the other Captain Burney takes for the Seal of the Right Honble. the Governor of Bengal. The Siamese and English have established together a great and sincere friendship and amity, and I now send this report for the information of the Governor of P. W. Island.

The Officers have received charge of the square Glass Box with four Bottles, both the Box and Bottles ornamented, which the Governor of Prince of Wales Island most humbly tendered to the King of Siam, who was most graciously pleased to order them to prepare 12 Peculs of Sugar, which His Majesty bestows upon the Governor of Prince of Wales Island with abundant favor. The Officers have also received the Chain of pure Gold and pair of Bracelets, which the Governor of Prince of Wales Island nost humbly tendered to the Wangna, who was most graciously pleased to order them to prepare 15 Peculs of Sugar

which His Highness bestows upon the Governor of Prince of Wales Island with abundant favor. And I have received with thanks a Box of Glass ware, which the Governor of P. W. Island sent by Captain Burney in token of his remembrance and respect. I have delivered to Captain Burney 15 Peculs of Sugar. May the Governor of Prince of Wales Island receive the same in a friendly manner. Letter written on Monday the 6th day of the 8th increasing Moon according to the Siamese era 1188 year Dog 8 (10 July 1826).

Translated from the Siamese

(Signed) H. BURNEY, Captain

Envoy to the Court of Siam.

No. 45.

LETTER from His Excellency Chao Phya Phra Klang Minister of high rank at Bangkok to John Crawfurd Esquire Resident of Singapore.

With respect to the Letter from the Resident of Singapore stating, that the Right Honble. the Governor of Bengal had appointed Captain Henry Burney an Envoy to take charge of Articles and come and humbly present them to His Sacred Majesty the King of Siam, that the English desire to form friendship with Siam and several other matters, all of which I have fully understood, As soon as Captain Burney's Ship arrived at Memung Samooth prokan (Paknam) I afforded assistance, and humbly submitted the matter for the information of his Sacred, Most Exalted, Just, Gracious and Excellent Majesty the King of Siam, who, regarding the Right Honble. the Governor of Bengal with abundant favor, was most graciously pleased to order the Envoy to be met, and received according to the Customs of a great Country, forming a suitable and proper friendship. I introduced Captain Burney the Envoy to an * audience to salute with profound veneration His Majesty the King and His Highness the Wangna, and the Articles from the Right Honble. the Governor of Bengal, and from the Governors of Prince of Wales Island and Singapore were most humbly tendered, and every part of the contents of the Letter submitted. The King and the Wangna were most graciously pleased to address Captain Burney and to enquire with abundant favor, after the Right Honble. the Governor of Bengal and the Governors of Prince of Wales Island and Singapore, and they said, The Right Honble. the Governor of Bengal having deputed an Envoy to come and desire to renew and increase friendship, to explain that the English have sent an Army to beat the Burmese, and to inform Siam that the Governor of Bengal

* The Dup: copy has "the presence"

wishes to establish friendship, and the Governors of Prince of Wales Island and Singapore entertaining sincere regard and good will, we return many thanks to the Governor of Bengal, and to the Governors of Prince of Wales Island and Singapore. May the Right Honble. the Governor of Bengal ever live in peace and tranquillity, and may the Governors of P. W. Island and Singapore also, together with the whole English nation, ever remain in peace and tranquillity. Friendship between the Siamese and English will be confirmed and increased far beyond what it formerly was, without chance of interruption.

And now that Captain Burney visited Bangkok, I have received and attended to him with kindness and assisted him in every particular—nothing has been wanting. In the present letter from the Right Honble. the Governor of Bengal, it is mentioned that His Lordship desires that friendship between the English and Siamese may be confirmed, prolonged and increased, and that the English have no cause to covet or take anything belonging to Siam. His Lordship applied to conclude a Treaty, in order that friendship might be fixed and improved, and that the Countries subordinate on either side might live in peace, and not disturb each other respecting any point which would be settled by mutual stipulation. His Majesty the King of Siam was most graciously pleased to observe, We approve of this manner which the Right Honorable the Governor of Bengal proposes of concluding a Treaty: it is very correct and conformable to established customs. Friendship would be sincere, firm and perpetual, and Merchants on both sides would be able to visit and trade together with freedom. and facility. Siam also does not meditate to disturb or take anything in any place or country belonging to the English. Let the Ministers of high rank and Chao Phya Ligor Sithamrat confer with Captain Burney

in a friendly manner. The Ministers then and Chao Phya Ligor Sithammat examined with Captain Burney, whatever might fix and prolong friendship between the Siamese and English, and prove beneficial to both parties only. Having agreed upon and mutually approved of the terms, they made two Copies of a Treaty, concluding it on Monday the 6th day of the 8th increasing Moon according to the Siamese era 1188 year Dog 8, and (10th July) according to the Christian era 1826. Every matter is shown in that Treaty, and the Ministers and Captain Burney have put their Seals to it. One Copy is at Bangkok and the other Captain Burney takes for the Seal of the Right Honorable the Governor of Bengal. The Siamese and English have established together a great and sincere friendship and amity, and I now send this report for the information of the Resident of Singapore.

The Officers have received charge of the Round Mirror with a Glass bottom playing European tunes, which the Resident of Singapore most humbly tendered to His Majesty the King of Siam, who was most graciously pleased to order them to prepare 13 Peculs of Sugar, which His Majesty bestows upon the Resident of Singapore with abundant favor. And I have received with thanks the Chain of pure Gold, which the Resident of Singapore sent by Captain Burney as a token of friendship. I have delivered to Captain Burney 10 Catties of Aguila Wood. May the Resident of Singapore receive the same in a friendly manner. Letter written on Monday the 6th day of the 8th increasing Moon according to the Siamese era 1188 year Dog 8 (10th July 1826).

Translated from the Siamese

(Signed) H. BURNEY Captain

Envoy to the Court of Siam.

No. 46

LETTER from the Raja of Ligor to the Honorable the Governor of Prince of Wales Island.

Letter of sincere affection, which will know no diminution as long as the Sun and Moon continue to revolve, from me Chao Phya Sitham Mosokorat, Ch'hati de Ch'ho Ch'hai, Mahai Sooriya Thip bodi, aphai phiri bora, Krom pha hoo, Chao Phya Lakhon Sithamrat, whom God preserves, together with the whole world, to my friend the Honorable Robert Fullerton, Governor of Prince of Wales Island, who possesses prudence and wisdom, and is praised by all friends far and near. And after that, be it known to my friend, whereas Captain Burney came to Bangkok, I afforded him aid and assistance according to friendly regard. Captain Burney returns from Bangkok before me. I shall come hereafter. When I arrive I will consider affairs in the manner Captain Burney has engaged by Treaty at Bangkok, and let my friend cement friendship very much, and let it be more than it was before. Kedah and Prince of Wales Island will be able to have intercourse and trade in an affectionate and friendly manner, and continue peaceful and happy. The measures respecting Perak and Kedah, upon my return from Bangkok, I will arrange and execute according to the Treaty which Captain Burney has newly formed at Bangkok. If before I come Kedah or Perak commit any breach of the Treaty, do not be offended and angry. When I arrive I will arrange matters so that Kedah and Perak shall be obliged to observe the new Treaty which has been formed at Bangkok. I will continue to keep the Treaty with sincerity. These I send to explain. Letter written on Wednesday the 14th day of the 8th increasing moon year Dog 8.

Translated from the Siamese

(Signed) H. BURNEY Captain
Envoy to the Court of Siam.

FORT CORNWALLIS The 20 September 1826.

Factory Records, Straits Settlements, Vol. 138, pp. 273-318.

UPON which the President records the following Minute, and a letter to the King of Perak.

PRESIDENT'S MINUTE.

I now proceed to make such observations as occur to me on the draft of the Treaty lately concluded by Captain Burney.

Articles 1 & 2.

These are too general to be of any use or importance, the direct specification of the Countries dependant or independant of the contracting Parties should have been stated.

Articles 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 & 11.

These articles are all proper in themselves and require no particular remark.

Article 12.

The whole of this Article is so worded as to amount to the admission of the actual dependance of Tringano and Kalantan on Siam. There appears indeed studied ambiguity in the terms and a reservation of self construction is left with the contracting parties, which almost leaves the point at issue quite as unsettled as it could have been had no Treaty been made. The stipulation against the Siamese going and interrupting our Trade in Tringano and Kalantan may be considered by us as precluding the right of any interference by Siam, for every such interference must produce confusion and interruption of trade; it might be construed as conveying to us the right of direct interposition in case of such interference, on the other hand it may be construed by them as giving them the right of complete subjugation so long as our trade is not interrupted by them. It is true commercial intercourse and freedom is our main object, but commercial arrangement unsupported

by political influence cannot be depended on. With a country in contention and confusion there can be no trade. If the Article bears such a construction as will admit of our keeping open direct communication with those states, such as will give us the right of interposition in the event of the Siamese intermeddling in their affairs, assuming a paramount control in short protecting them in their independance, all is gained that we can require, and, under that construction, but not otherwise, I should recommend the ratification of this article of the Treaty.

Article 13. The first part of the stipulation respecting freedom of duty and intercourse by the Rivers is good, but the reciprocal agreement we have no right to enter into unless the Ex King of Quedah is himself a party. We treated with his father as an Independant Sovereign, and received from him the Island as such, and it is perfectly understood that British protection was the real as well as avowed object of the cession. We allowed his son to be expelled by the Siamese, he sought refuge and found it on the Island. We may, if under all circumstances we can reconcile it to ourselves, withdraw our protection and direct him to quit our Territory and go where he pleases, but we surely have no right to stipulate for him the renunciation and abandonment of every attempt to recover his lost Kingdom. We could not without manifest injustice enforce such a stipulation, neither have we a right to make him a Prisoner or to send him as such to any particular spot. While he remains on the Island we are no doubt to prevent his using his residence for hostile purposes and preparations against Ligore, but only so long as he remains. If he chooses to quit our protection we can hold over him no further control. It has been our policy never to interfere in the disputes between Kedah and Siam. We have pursued that Policy contrary, in my opinion, to our own interests, and more steadily perhaps than consistent

with the virtual obligation incurred when we accepted the Island. Our now guaranteeing Kedah to the Siamese against the attempts of its original possessors, would be a deviation from that course. Refusing, as we have invariably done, all aid and assistance to the Ex King, we could have no right to his seeking it elsewhere, and were he to seek it by alliance with the French or any other European Power, however inconvenient such might be to us, we could have no absolute right to interfere. The King of Kedah once entered into negociations with Ava for the recovery of his Throne, and this coming to the knowledge of this Government were instantly communicated to Ligore, and have opposed the main barrier against his restoration. The danger of such a connection, it was supposed would have induced the Rajah of Ligore to listen to terms for the restoration of the King. The answer to the proposition afforded a good specimen of Siamese vanity and presumption: as usual indeed the Ligore chief made some promises, but when required to fulfil them, he would not even see the Envoy sent from this Island.

In every way has the course we have followed proved ruinous to the interests of that unhappy Prince, and the enforcement of the 13th Article of this Treaty would be the consummation of that course. We may on the conviction of the hopelessness of the attempt cease to urge his restoration, but there is a wide difference between that and a formal stipulation for the final renunciation of all future claims in favor of another State. Let us here contrast the article of the preliminary agreement with the Rajah of Ligore with the Article of the Treaty now brought back. By the one, that Chief stipulates that he will proceed and report the terms of the preceding one, and if the King of Siam consents that he will withdraw his Troops and restore the Kingdom. So far from this being effected, the Treaty returned provides for the final and per-

manent renunciation of his Kingdom by the other Party. Let it be remembered also, that this Preliminary Agreement was the Document, which as far as the interests of this Government were concerned decided the question of sending on the Envoy. On the other hand, it must be admitted that as it has not suited our Policy either to retain the King in possession, or to enforce his restoration to his Country by stronger measures, and as our negociations may now be considered to have completely failed, it is desirable he should reside at some other station than one calculated to keep alive constant jealousy, doubt and ill will. It must now be our endeavour to induce the Ex-King to consent to seek another residence. As Malacca is beyond the limits objected to, and Arrangements may possibly be made to establish him there in security and comfort, it must be our endeavour to persuade to that effect. It may be stated to him how little hopes he can now entertain of ever regaining possession of his Territories, and how small the sacrifice in abandoning a claim or pretension now so very unlikely to be ever re-established. The advantages he may derive from security and comfort resulting by restoration of his family now in confinement by the Rajah of Ligore may also by urged. The sum originally stipulated or compensation for the Island was 10,000 Dollars per Annum, on the expulsion of the King his Allowance was reduced to 6000, but as no claim for any payment has ever been or can now be made by the Siamese for the possession of the Island, but on the contrary we are to derive the benefit of stipulated exemption from all duties on Provisions, it may not be considered unreasonable to make the additional 4000 Dollars another inducement to his acquiescence in the proposed terms. At Malacca he will of course be treated with the same external marks of honor and respect hitherto paid to him, and by bestowing a certain portion of Lands on himself and Followers, it may be possible to make his situation

more reconcileable to the wounded feelings naturally resulting from his Misfortunes; but if every argument should fail in obtaining his assent to these terms, I must confess I cannot bring myself to recommend the ratification of this part of the Treaty and as the exemption from duties on Provisions, appears to be distinctly stated as the set off against the completion of this Arrangement, I should prefer foregoing the advantages if they can be attained only by a measure which without the Ex-King's consent would amount to a violation of rights and breach of hospitality where we are peculiarly bound to observe them in the most literal sense. The King has connections on the East Coast of Sumatra at Siack, and Delhi, and has sometimes expressed an intention of proceeding thither, but we may be well assured, he would go there only to organize, with the aid of his friends his best means of attacking the Siamese, and the collection of disorderly followers that would be found there might produce confusion and piracy to a great extent, besides which, unless resident within our limits, we could not safely stipulate for his forbearance; as far indeed as it may be the object of the Siamese to avoid molestation from him, his remaining in our territory would be for them the safest plan. It is also to be considered that it is not we alone that gain by the Free Export of Grain and Provisions. This Island is the best Market for the surplus Produce of Kedah, and it will find its way here as it always has done, notwithstanding occasional orders to the contrary: when the whole of this Island was a jungle, the dependance on Kedah was unavoidable; but viewing the means we have of providing for ourselves, I much question whether the benefit derived from encouragement and promotion of Agriculture within the Island, would not in the end outweigh the temporary inconvenience resulting from the occasional interruption of Kedah supply.

Article 14. The first part of this stipulation that the King shall govern his Country according to his own will is so far satisfactory that it conveys an admission of independance. If he desires to send the Golden Flower to Siam of his own free will and consent, we can have no right to prevent him, but it must be our business to ascertain that such free will does exist. If the King of Perak is also willing to receive the 40 or 50 men to be sent in a friendly way by the Chow Phya of of Ligore, we can have no wish to prevent it, but it must be our care to see that it is with friendly intention that they are sent, and that the admission is free and voluntary on the part of the King. If the King wishes to send any of his Officers to see the Chow Phya at Ligore, we can have no pretence to forbid them, and for all this notwithstanding the Treaty made with the Rajah of Ligore, Persons have been sent who have been exercising complete control over the affairs of that Country. We have received letters from the King which leave little doubt of that circumstance. These stipulations therefore only betray the latent intention of the Ligore chief. His object is to establish the belief that the influence exercised over Perak by him is not compulsive but by the assent of the chief: for the real sentiments of the King of Perak on that head I need only refer to the communication which passed between him and Mr. Anderson. It was stated to Captain Burney that the first tender of the Boongah Mas to Siam was purely voluntary on the part of Perak. but we know that the father of the present King resisted the demand to the utmost of his power, submitting only to actual force and necessity.

This article I can recommend to be ratified only, therefore, under the distinct understanding that we reserve to ourselves the powers, first of ascertaining the real sentiments of the King of Perak ; secondly, of ensuring him by efficient means, full protection against

Siamese aggression, and for that purpose an agent must be sent to communicate with him on the subject. As to the Stipulation for the defence of Perak against Salengore influence, it is quite an assumption in Siam *(sic)* negociating for the security of an independant State. That point must depend on arrangements between ourselves and the King of Perak, but it seems unobjectionable, it being understood that such holds no longer than Perak continues free and independant, and will cease if ever that State, whether with the consent of the King, or otherwise, falls under the dominion of Siam.

In respect to all the commercial stipulations, they appear to be advantageous, but so little faith do I repose in their fulfilment that I scarcely think it worth while to enter into any serious discussion regarding them.

As far as Commercial objects at Bangkok are concerned, it may be said the mutual interests of two Nations, the reciprocal advantages derivable from open and free trade form the only solid grounds of commercial intercourse, and when the interests of the people have any weight with the Government, such may be generally relied on for the continuation of Trade. The opinions or interests of the people have little to say in the measures of a despotic and arbitrary Government like Siam and other more Eastern Nations. Foreign Trade is admitted only as affording the means of gratifying the rapacity and extortion of the Officers of the Government, but even these must have their limits. If exaction is carried beyond those limits, Trade must cease, and the gain derived, in whatever shape, must be lost. It is evident that public negociation is likely to produce little effect, and it is probable that moderation is more likely to be ultimately established by the exertions of the Merchants themselves than the interference of the State.

The Government of Siam has, like all other Governments, an undoubted right to settle the terms on which other Nations are to trade with it, or to forbid that trade entirely—for in that respect at least we cannot have recourse to intimidation, such means are justifiable only on resistance to unauthorized and unjust encroachments on the interests of others.

If Siam has a surplus Produce which it has an interest to dispose of for other commodities receivable from us, an outlet and interchange will be found by native vessels proceeding to Singapore, and until the chiefs and men in power see their error in over exaction it will be far safer for the British Merchant to look to that mode of supply, than submit his person to the risk of insult, his property to the risk of plunder and exaction, and Government to the necessity of requiring satisfaction. Even though our Envoy has succeeded in concluding a Treaty for the conduct of trade at the Port, what security can we have for its punctual execution? What hope of fair dealing can be expected from a Government which one day issues a Proclamation granting free permission to foreigners to buy where they please, and the next confines its subjects to * selling without its permission.

* ? for

I shall now proceed to make a few observations on the whole proceedings of the Mission.

In respect to Quedah it may be observed that having been so long left under the Government of Siam, and that state of things, tacitly at least, acquiesced in for many years, there could be little hopes of obtaining its restoration to its lawful King, except by reciprocal concession of corresponding advantage. Captain Burney seems mainly to have relied on the influence of the Rajah of Ligore to carry through the objects of his negociation, and it must

here be remembered that that chief was in actual occupation of Quedah, and deriving all the advantages of that possession. Whatever influence he may really have with the Court, and I regret it seems to be considerable, it could not be expected that it would have been exerted in carrying through a measure, of which the reduction of his own influence and power would have been the result. If indeed some great and decided advantage could have been given to the General Government of Siam, in exchange, great enough to outweigh with that Court the individual interests and influence of Ligore, there might have been hopes of success. But this has long been entirely out of the question. It is not probable that any part of our late acquisitions will be ceded to Siam, and I must confess that after the exposition afforded by Captain Burney of the nature of the Siamese Government, and of the probable treatment the Inhabitants would receive, humanity forbids us to hope for such a transfer. I confess therefore, I never considered the case of Quedah as very promising —it must now be considered as quite hopeless. Neither do I augur very favorably in the final arrangement of other points, in which the Chief of Ligore is in any way concerned, excepting in so far as the Treaty may be considered to authorize our acting by more decisive means than negociation. It is not to be denied that the spirit of enterprize and ambition displayed by him in all his proceedings are directed to further conquest and subjugation, from which he cannot fail to draw an accession of power. It is not from him therefore that we can ever expect the serious renunciatian of views of conquest. Contrasting indeed the success that has attended the negociation of our Envoy on points not connected with the concern of Ligore, with the opposition in the latter, I cannot doubt that that chief has been our real Enemy at the Court of Siam, and has materially obstructed the

completion of every object of the mission in which we are immediately concerned. The counteraction, if not destruction of his influence at the Court, should have been the first object of the Envoy. I fear the manifest dependance and reliance placed on him has much added to his importance, has taught him to be considered as the only one fit to deal with an European opponent in Politics or War. I consider it singularly unfortunate for these Settlements that we have such a neighbour, who seems of all the Siamese Chiefs to be the only one possessed of judgment to form a resolution to execute any settled plan of aggression. Unless met by prompt and efficient means of local resistance, I cannot but anticipate therefrom much future inconvenience. The late proceedings in respect to Perak afford indeed the most complete illustration of Ligore Policy. The abstract History of that State from 1610 has already been given in a former Minute. In that Minute it was clearly shewn that Perak was never tributary to Siam up to the period of its most nefarious subjugation by orders of Siam in the year 1818. It was in 1822 relieved from that Power by the King of Salengore, who left his son and relation Tuanko Hussein at the mouth of the river to prevent their return. To recover possession the late Armament at Quedah was professedly prepared by the Rajah of Ligore. The object was counteracted by the measures taken by the Government, and the refusal of permission to pass through the Straits between the Island and the Main land, and ended in Captain Burney's Treaty, by one Article of which we engaged to remove Tuanko Hussein—by another the Rajah of Ligore engaged that no Siamese force should [go] to or remain in Perak; the express object being to maintain Perak in a state of independance as it stood when first ceded to us by the Dutch in 1795. Our part of the agreement we performed by compelling Tuanko Hussein to retire, and it was no sooner done than the Siamese, or rather the

Rajah of Ligore, broke his by immediately occupying the Country, thus affording the complete exemplification of the value of a Siamese Treaty, and of the degree of faith to be reposed in it. It certainly was in my contemplation to have taken effectual means for their expulsion. Adverting however to the presence of Cartain Burney at the Capital [and] the extreme suspicion evinced by the Siamese Court, it seemed more advisable to await the result of the Mission than have recourse to a measure which must have been represented as a direct hostile attack, while the circumstances which produced it would have been denied.

Captain Burney, I perceive, imputes to the King of Quedah, the blame of having misled this Government in 1814 into the belief that Perak was a tributary of Siam. It seems hardly fair to censure proceedings over which that unhappy chief could not possibly exercise any control. It is well known that the King of Quedah did every thing he could to evade obedience to the order of Siam for the attack on Perak: it is well known that he used every means in his power by supplication and entreaty to induce the Government of this Island to save him from the necessity of such a measure, and which he knew to be the forerunner of his own ruin. Granting that the Vakeels sent by him, being in the interest of Siam, represented Perak as an old dependency of that state—it is hard to censure an act which could be avoided only by our interference, and which we refused to exert. Neither can the erroneous view of this Government be fairly ascribed to the information of the Quedah Vakeels. There was enough on their own records to shew the futility of the claim of Siam. That claim it now appears by Captain Burney's Papers the Siamese themselves admit had no existence.

In support of the view I have taken of our

political interests in this quarter, as detailed in my Minute of the 24 September 1825, I beg to refer to the annexed Extract of a letter from the Lieutenant Governor of Fort Marlborough to the Resident of Singapore dated 7 June 1823.

"27. Having given you these instructions as "regards your situation of Resident of Singapore, "I am desirous also of calling your attention on "some points to the line of Policy which it appears "to me advisable for you to pursue in your more "general political capacity in the Archipelago. On * 7 is "this subject one of the most material points in * "our political relations with Siam and the Malayan "States alleged to be tributary to it. On this point "it is incumbent upon me to state with candour that "the Policy hitherto pursued by us has, in my opinion, "been founded on erroneous principles. The depen- "dence of the Tributary States in this case is founded "on no natural relation which connects them with the "Siamese Nation. These people are of opposite "manners, language, religion and general interests, "and the superiority maintained by the one over the "other is so remote from protection on the one side, "or attachment on the other, that it [is] but a simple "exercise of capricious tyranny by the stronger party "submitted to by the weaker only from the law of "necessity. We have ourselves for near forty years "been nearly Eye witness of the pernicious influence "exercised by the Siamese over the Malay States. "During the Revolutions of the Siamese Government "these profit by its weakness and from cultivating "an intercourse with strangers, especially with our "own and other European Nations, they are always "in a fair train of prosperity. With the Settlement "of the Siamese Government, on the contrary, invari- "ably returns the exercise of its tyranny, and the "Malayan States are threatened, intimidated and "plundered. The recent invasion of Quedah is a

" striking example in point, and from the informa-
" tion conveyed to me it would appear that the Com-
" mercial and interesting state of Tringano, at present
" governed by a Prince of most respectable character,
" being personally attached to our Nation, has only
" been saved from a similar fate by an unlooked for
" event. By the independent Malayan States, who
" may be supposed the best judges of this matter, it
" is important to observe that the connection of the
" Tributary Malays with Siam is looked upon as a
" matter of simple compulsion, fully aware of our
" power, and in general deeply impressed with a respect
* ? denied. " for our national character, still it cannot be desired *
" that we suffer at the moment in their good opinion
" by withholding from them that protection from the
" oppression of the Siamese which it would be so easy for
" us to grant. The case is stronger with regard to
" Quedah than the rest, for here a general impression
" is abroad amongst them, that we refuse the assistance
" that we are by Treaty virtually bound to give, since
" we entered into a Treaty with that State as an In-
" dependent Power, without recognizing the Supremacy
" of Siam, or even alluding to its connection for five and
" twenty years after our first occupation. The Pros-
* ? so. " perity of the Settlement under your direction is as *
" much connected with that of the Malayan Natives in
" its neighbourhood, and this again upon their liberty
" and security from foreign oppression, that I must
" seriously recommend to your attention the contem-
" plation of the probable event of their deliverance
" from the yoke of Siam, and the keeping of the
" Supreme Goverment immediately informed of every
" event which may promise to lead to that desirable
" result."

The fate of Quedah is unfortunately irretrieveably decided, but so fully do I concur in the sentiments above expressed, that if the conclusion of the Treaty now before us can be construed as precluding the aid

and instrumentality of the British Government in rescuing those which remain from the further exercise of Siamese usurpation, I cannot hesitate in giving my opinion that it should not be ratified.

(Signed) R. FULLERTON

18 September 1826.

RESOLVED that the following letter be addressed to Captain Burney.

To

THE ENVOY to SIAM.

To Envoy to Siam 25 Septr. 1826.

SIR,

Political Dept.

Para 1st. I am directed by the Honble. the Governor in Council to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 9th Instant, with Journal and treaty. The sentiments of this Government will be detailed at length to the Right Honble. the Governor General in Council. In the mean time, the Honble. the Governor in Council deems it right to convey to you the opinions entertained on the subject, as connected with the interests of the Malay Peninsula.

2. The first Article without the specification of the Countries admitted to be dependent or Independent, is mere general declaration and not susceptible of any remark.

3. The 12th Article respecting Tringano and Kalantan appears to be worded with considerable ambiguity, so as to leave to each party, the right of of self construction. But the whole wording of the Article would seem to convey by implication, the admission of complete Supremacy of Siam over these states, the express disavowal of which was a main object of the Government. The Siamese are bound not to go and interrupt the trade of Tringano and the British Govern-

ment are bound not to go to attack and molest that state; but whether the provision against the interruption of trade is meant to preclude every sort of interference on their part, or to leave them to exert it to the utmost, so long as trade be not interrupted, does not appear. The terms being of doubtful meaning, decision can only be conditional; and if this article is understood to leave to the British Government, the right of direct Treaty and negociation with these states, the right of opposing all forcible interference of the Siamese and the right of affording them complete protection, if such should hereafter be determined on, then the article appears unobjectionable. If, on the other hand, it leaves undisputed power to Siam, of exerting its supremacy, and precludes our right of interference, then the Article is in opposition to that line of Policy to which, for the present, at least, it was deemed by this Government indispensable to adhere.

Article 13. This Article refers to Quedah entirely. From the length of time that has elapsed during which the Siamese have been allowed to remain in possession of that Country, this Government were certainly not sanguine in their hopes of procuring their removal, without some signal concession in another quarter. It is not to be denied however, that the Articles of the Preliminary Treaty with the Rajah of Ligore, gave some hopes of a favorable result, and that Treaty appears to have been written by that Chief himself, under the contemplation of the Ex King's restoration. These expectations formed a strong inducement, as as connected with this Presidency, for sending on the Mission, and altho' the necessity of foregoing these expectations, and dropping all attempts in the Ex King's favor on this occasion, was contemplated, the Board certainly were not prepared to expect a stipulation amounting to nothing short of the entire abandonment of the King, his dismission from his last

Asylum and our guarantee for his final renunciation of all future claims on his Kingdom. Having hitherto observed strict neutrality and declined assisting him against Siam, it does not appear that this Government is authorized to take an active part against him, and become guarantee on the other side, by pledging our faith to prevent his seeking elsewhere that assistance which we have refused. However desirable it might be that the residence of the King should be at a greater distance from his Kingdom, it is evident, that without his being a party to the Treaty, this Government cannot dictate to him his place of residence; he may indeed be required to leave our Territory and proceed elsewhere, if, under the circumstances under which he came here, such a course can be considered right. Supposing our interference in his behalf withdrawn, the Siamese could be entitled to no further stipulation than the implied one already admitted, that, so long as he remained under our protection, no hostile attempts or preparations would be made against them. By the Treaty, as now concluded, the chief of Ligore has gained an advantage he never before possessed; the virtual acknowledgment of a right tacitly allowed, but never hitherto distinctly admitted, and the Board cannot see in any part of the Treaty a corresponding benefit to us, even tho' we were disposed to accept any on such condition. Every argument will be used to induce the Ex King to reside at Malacca, because, under present circumstances it is evident, that such is the best arrangement that can now be made; but if he finally decides on remaining, The Honble. the Governor in Council cannot reconcede * to any principle of justice or right, his forcible removal, and cannot recommend the ratification of a Treaty involving the necessity of such a measure. It is obvious indeed, that after the Ex King quits British Territory, it would be quite impossible to pledge ourselves against hostile attempts on Ligore.

* reconcile.

Article 14.

5. This Article is so far satisfactory that it confirms the Preliminary Agreement made in respect to Perak. It declares the King Independant and, being a Treaty made by us, it may be urged it gives us the right of supporting that Independence. The insertion of Provisions for the sending the Boongah Mas and for receiving certain Persons in a friendly way, completely betray the latent objects of the chief of Ligore: he has not, probably, the slightest intention of adhering to the spirit of the Article, and we may expect the exercise of every Trick which cunning and deceit can devise to evade its execution. That an independant sovereign should send and receive such persons as he pleases, and should even send a Silver Flower to another Prince, if he pleases, requires no Treaty; they are only found in the one now before the Board, to cover other Plans and Intentions. It may be said, indeed, that the Treaty gives us the right to interfere more forcibly, but what are the objects of Treaties but to come to amicable understanding and prevent so disagreeable an alternative. A Treaty to be executed by absolute force is of a very negative advantage. The farther measures connected with this article will be stated hereafter. The Board proceed to the further consideration of the Treaty.

6. All the Articles affecting commercial relations appear satisfactory; but the Board entertain so very slight expectation of their being adhered to that they scarcely consider it necessary to discuss them Those applicable to Trade at Bangkok appear to place our commercial relations there on a more favorable footing. This was an object of negociation suggested by the Resident of Singapore, and one which never appeared to the Board to be of much importance or likely to be attained, so little faith can be placed on their provisions that the Board consider it would be infinitely better for the Merchants to receive the produce of Siam and return their Goods in exchange

by the Native Junks frequenting Singapore, than to risk their persons to insult, their Property to plunder, and the British Government to the necessity of resenting it, by going to war with Siam. The tendency to extortion on the part of the Siamese Officers at Bangkok is more likely to be checked by the forfeiture of the advantages resulting from fair Commercial intercourse, and self Interest seems more likely to induce moderation, than any public negociation.

7. The Board now proceed to submit to you a few general observations on the progress of the Mission. The several matters connected with the late war with Ava in which communication with Siam became necessary, the Board admit to have been paramount considerations, so long as the war continued.

8. The hopes of Co-operation from Siam appear to have ceased, in some degree, before you proceeded to Bangkok. To induce the Siamese Force in the Neighbourhood of Martaban to advance in support of Colonel Pepper's Detachment and to cover the attack upon Tongah seemed, however, by Sir Archibald Campbell, as a most important object, and, although every argument used by you proved unavailing, it is but justice to notice your unremitting exertions for that purpose.

9. In keeping them to Neutrality at least, and preventing those occurrences so likely to arise from the Proximity of the Siamese to the very weak force at Martaban and the Tenasserim Coast, which might, if not checked, have produced rupture between the two Governments, Your interposition has no doubt been most usefully employed and in the recovery from Slavery and misery, of so many unhappy beings, taken from Countries under the protection and control of the British Government, the cause of humanity has been signally promoted and one subject of dispute and

contention between the two Governments removed. While the Board therefore gives you all due credit, for the patience, perseverance and temper displayed by you, under all the trying circumstances inseparable from negociation with such a vain, arrogant and conceited Court, Candour obliges them to confess, that in all matters connected with the Malay Peninsula, the Mission must be considered in some degree, to have failed, and that the state of our relations with our Neighbours is not materially improved by the result; for this the Board can be at no loss to account. You seem all along to have relied principally on the influence of the Chief of Ligore, in all your negociations. Now considering that the Rajah of Ligore was the aggressor and is now in actual possession of Quedah, deriving all the advantages therefrom; that he is moreover, the person directing all the interference and aggression in the state of Perak and Salengore; that he is, by far, the most intriguing and ambitious of all the Siamese Chiefs,—it was not likely that his influence would ever be exerted towards the completion of the objects in which this Government were interested. The very reverse might safely have been presumed. The counteraction and destruction of this man's influence ought therefore, to have been the first object of your arrangements, he should have been represented in his true character, as a most troublesome neighbour to the British, as the person, of all others, most likely to bring on a rupture between the two Governments; instead of which course, you appear to have consulted him and been guided by him on several occasions. You seem to have [made] him the principal medium and source of your most important communications. By such a course, his influence has been much increased instead of being diminished. He must now be viewed as the only person fit to meet an European opponent, either in war or diplomacy. Contrasting, indeed, the success that has attended your endeavours in every

object wherein the interests of Ligore were not involved—with the failure in those which in any way affected the views and intentions of that Chief, it cannot be doubted, that he has been our main enemy at the Court of Siam, and it must be a matter of regret, that these Settlements have such a neighbour. It cannot be doubted that he will now return to Quedah with increased arrogance and presumption, and with extended views of conquest. Established as his influence now must be, the great portion of the Military force of Siam will be at his disposal in the prosecution of those views, and whatever that portion may be we may expect it to be situated not many miles from this Island. The Board cannot but anticipate therefrom, much serious inconvenience, unless met by the most steady and unremitting opposition. The Board admit that at the time you proceeded on the Mission and during the first part of its progress, objects connected with the Burmese War were the most important: a conciliatory and temporizing policy was required and if the prevention of hostilities with Siam could have been ensured only by the abandonment of the views of this Government, such would have been viewed as a necessary sacrifice of local to general objects of more importance; but after the Burmese War had been brought to a successful termination The Board are of opinion, you might have assumed a higher tone and availing yourself of the impression produced by that event and of the alarms under which you represent the Siamese to have labored about that time, The Board are disposed to think, that had you seriously urged on the Court of Siam, all the objects of your Mission, (the restoration of Quedah included) as essential and indispensable to the maintenance of peace between the two States, every one would have been conceded.

10. In closing these observations, the Board must however, in justice to you, admit the difficulty

with which you had to contend, from the impracticable character of the people with whom you had to deal, the necessity of yielding some points, for the attainment of others, and the manifest expediency of coming to some sort of understanding, instead of quitting the the Court, if not on actually hostile, at least on unfriendly terms. As the Right Honble. the Governor General will, no doubt, expect that the Treaty should be accompanied by the final and decisive opinion of this Government on its merits, the Board will be happy to receive from you such explanation as you have to offer, respecting the the true intent and meaning of the different provisions alluded to in this letter, as well as your opinion in regard to the declarations which might be made on ratification so as to remove the objectionable part of the provisions and leave the future measures of this Government less shackled than they seem to be by the letter of the Treaty as it now stands.

11. In reference to transactions that have taken place connected with your Mission, and on which further measures may be required, I am directed to enclose copies of Information given relating to the affairs of Perak, From these you will perceive, there is every reason to believe that the Treaty with Ligore had no sooner been executed on our part and Rajah Hussein removed, than the former Chief sent upwards of 200 people who, in reality, on the plea of demanding the Boongah Mas, actually assumed the complete management of the Country. The Honorable the Governor in Council refrained at that juncture, from proceeding to measures which might have seriously affected your negociations, and deemed it better to await your return; but as the Treaty on the subject of Perak now concluded virtually confirms the former, it became * necessary to take some measures to counteract the views of Ligore against that state. Of the real sentiments of the King of Perak The Honble. the

* sic.

Governor in Council entertains no doubt. His letters, as well as his communications with Mr. Anderson, are sufficiently clear on this point. That he should prefer connections with, or in other words, submission to Ligore, to independence, under our guarantee, can scarcely be believed. Any appearance of doubt or disinclination on his part, if such should appear, can now be ascribed only to intimidation, produced by the artful machinations of the Chief at Ligore, which it must in the first instance be our object to counteract. For this purpose Captain Low has been deputed to Perak. A Copy of the Instructions given him and of other papers connected therewith are now enclosed. On the receipt of Information from Perak respecting the transaction above alluded to, letters were written to the Young Chief of Ligore, also to his father. Copies are enclosed of these. No notice whatever has been taken, and as it is indispensable that the Chief of Ligore should be brought to some explanation on these, the draft of another letter is enclosed, of which it is the desire of the Honble. the Governor in Council that you should be the bearer as far as Quedah. In presenting it to the Young Chief for transmission to his father, as it is probable the latter will not have arrived, you will use every argument to convincing * the Young Chief that Treaties and Agreements are not made with a British Government to be executed or not at the pleasure of the parties. That the one respecting Perak must be strictly performed. That he must abstain from any interference whatever with Perak; that his sending people there will render it necessary for us to do the same and that the whole objects of the arrangements must be destroyed. You will yourself address a letter to the Chief of Ligore to the same effect. You will easily perceive that the object in view is to retain all things as they are, pending ultimate decision of superior authority. The delivery of the letter and presents from the Right

* sic.

Honble. the Governor General was delayed in consequence of the absence of the chief from Ligore and the necessity of accompanying them by some ceremony beyond their simple transmission: in the mean time the accounts above alluded to were received and the letter having been written on the confirmation of a Treaty which there then seemed reason to believe the Chief himself had broken, doubts were entertained as to the propriety of their delivery to the Rajah until some explanations were received. As the new Treaty made at Siam confirms the other in respect to Perak, and as it is still to be hoped the Chief will adhere to it, The Board do not think themselves at liberty longer to withhold their delivery. It is intended therefore, that you should carry them with you to Quedah, to be put into the hands of the young Chief. From Quedah you will proceed to Bengal, transmitting by some safe conveyance, the result of your Proceedings, of which you will of course, make a full report to the Supreme Government. The letter from the Supreme Government enclosed contains the only subject not already noticed on this point. The Board are of opinion that the payment of the 2000 Dollars from the King of Salengore need not be insisted on; the death of the the old chief and successor of another might give rise to some new discussion, attended with much inconvenience.

I have &ca.

(Signed) JOHN ANDERSON

Secretary to Government.

Fort Cornwallis
The 23: September 1826.

Enclosure. LIST of Documents enclosed in the letter to Captain Burney, Envoy to Siam.

Dated 25 : September 1826.

1. Copies of 8 letters from the Honble. the Governor and Malay Translator to the Rajah of Ligore and his Son at Kedah, relative to the party of Siamese being at Perak and the letter and presents from the Governor General.

2. Two letters from the son of the Rajah of Ligore, being the only replies to the above.

3. Letter to Rajah of Ligore dated the 23rd September 1826.

4. Instructions to Captain Low, as Envoy to Perak.

5. Additional Instructions to Ditto.

6. Depositions at the Police, dated 18th May 1826, relative to the proceedings of the Siamese at Perak.

7. Extract from the King of Perak's letter to the Governor, 27th January 1826.

8. Letter from the Honble. the Governor to the King of Perak dated 15 May 1826.

9. Proposed Agreement offered to the Ex-King of Kedah.

10. Three letters from Rajah of Kedah to the Honble. the Governor, relative to the death of his son at Ligore, Muskets, and the proposed arrangement for his removal.

11. Copy of a letter from the Persian Secretary to Govt. and letter to Rajah of Ligore.

12. Letter from the Supreme Government relative to Mr. Anderson's Mission to Perak and Salengore, and Captain Burney's to Kedah, dated 27th July 1826.

THE PRESIDENT records the following further Minute, and letter to the King of Perak.

President's Minute, 15 Septr. 1826.

PRESIDENT'S MINUTE.

Captain Burney having returned from Siam, and as that part of the Treaty with Ligore, relative to Perak, is essentially confirmed, it may now be necessary to take measures for ascertaining the truth of the various reports of Siamese Interference, that have been made, as well as to explain to the King the nature of his situation, and to assure him of the protection of the British Government, if sincerely desirous of relieving himself from the thraldom in which he has been held by the Rajah of Ligore. He should be informed, That he is an Independant sovereign—to rule his Kingdom without any interference of Siam or Salengore.

That his sending the Boongah Mas to Siam depends entirely on himself. That he need not do so if he does not wish.

That he need not receive or admit the 30 or 40 Men to be sent by Ligore unless he pleases.

That he need not send any Person to Ligore to communicate except when he pleases.

The Siamese are not to send any Troops to attack Perak.

That the English will not send Troops and do not wish to occupy any part of Perak, provided the Siamese do not occupy or interfere.

But the King is to understand that he may rely on the assistance of the British Government in expelling any Siamese who come to Perak, or resisting any interference with his Government.

The Envoy will explain to the King the necessity of his giving some written Document of his wish to be independent and free of all interference.

This may be done by a letter addressed to the Governor, or to the Rajah of Ligore, which will be sent with such information as will effectually prevent any future interference.

In respect to Salengore, the King must be made to understand, that we shall protect him from any interference from that State, so long as he maintains himself in Independence of Siam by our assistance; but if he, of his own free will, places himself in dependence on Siam, the obligation ceases.

The Envoy will make particular enquiries as to the presence of any Siamese, or Agents of that Power being now, or having been, as reported, at Perak: what were their objects, and what their proceedings; and if he finds any there he will warn them to depart forthwith.

(Signed) R. FULLERTON.

15 Septr. 1826.

Enclosure.

LETTER from the Honble. R. Fullerton Esquire, Governor of Prince of Wales Island, Singapore and Malacca, to Sultan Abdullah, King of Perak.

With reference to the engagement of my friend, delivered to Mr. Anderson last year and the subsequent correspondence between us, I have now the satisfaction of informing my friend of the return of Captain Burney from Siam, and that the terms and conditions specified in the Treaty with Ligore, respecting Perak are to be fully carried into execution.

Captain Low, whom I have deputed to wait on my friend, has been instructed to communicate all particulars, and I trust that my friend will receive him with respect and kindness, and make known to him freely and unreservedly, his sentiments and wishes on all points.

My Envoy has been directed to acquaint my friend of all proceedings connected with the negociations with Siam in respect to Perak. My friend will now be considered as an Independent Sovereign, free to rule his Kingdom without any interference from Siam or Salengore. The transmission of the Boonga Mas depends entirely on my friend's own inclination and he need not again send it unless it is his wish to do so. There is no occasion for his receiving the 30 or 40 men proposed to be sent by the Rajah of Ligore unless it be his own pleasure; nor need my friend send any person to Ligore to communicate, except when he pleases.

It is now fully provided and settled that the Siamese shall not send any troops to attack Perak. The English will also refrain from sending Troops and do not wish to occupy any part of Perak, provided the Siamese do not occupy any part of the Country or interfere in the Govt.

My friend must also understand that he may rely on the assistance of the British in expelling any Siamese who may proceed to Perak, and resisting any interference with the Government. It will be satisfactory to me to receive a written communication from my friend of his desire to be independent and free of all interference.

In respect to Salengore, my friend may also rely that the British Government will protect him from all interference from that State so long as he maintains himself in independence of Siam by its assistance, but if my friend of his own free will, places himself in dependence on Siam, the obligation to protect him on the part of the British Government will cease.

Captain Low has been inclined to make enquiries relative to the presence of any Siamese or any Agents of that power being or having been, as reported, at Perak, their objects and proceedings, and it will be his duty, if he finds any there, to warn them to depart without delay.

The Envoy will deliver a few presents to my friend, as a token of my regard.

(Signed) R. FULLERTON

Prince of Wales Island

The 15: September 1826.

FORT CORNWALLIS The 20 September 1826.

Factory Records, Straits Settlements, Vol. 138 pp. 319-330.

THE SECRETARY reports that in conformity to the above Minute the following letter of Instructions was addressed to Captain Low.

No. 1350 INSTRUCTIONS to CAPTAIN LOW

To

CAPTAIN LOW.

SIR,—The Honble. the Governor in Council having been pleased to require your services to proceed to Perak, I am directed to transmit for your guidance, copies of the documents noted in the Margin, and to convey to you the following instructions.

List of Enclosures.

1. Copy of Capt. Burney's Treaty with Rajah of Ligore 31 July, 1825
2. Rajah of Perak's Engagement with Mr. Anderson 6 Septr. 1825.
3. Letter from King of Perak to Governor 6 Septr. 1825.
4. Letter from Governor to Do. Septr. ---
5. Rajah of Ligore to Governor 4. Septr. 1825.
6. Do. 18 Oct. 1825.
7. Governor to: 21 October.
8. Do. 22 Nov. 1825.
9. Governor to Rajah of Ligore 16 Decr. 1825.
10. From King of Perak to Governor 27 Jany. 1826.
11. Depositions relative to Siamese at Perak 18 May 1826.
12. Letter from Governor to Rajah of Ligore 27 May 1826.

With reference to the engagement concluded by the Rajah of Perak with the Envoy last year, pursuant to the stipulations of the Preliminary treaty with the Rajah of Ligore, which has been duly ratified by the Right Honble. the Governor General in Council,—and the correspondence which has since passed between the Honble. the Governor and the Rajah of Perak, your first duty will be [to] explain the means which which have induced this Government to refrain for a short time taking measures for enforcing the terms of the Treaty by directing the removal of the Siamese party said to be residing in Perak. The Honble. the Governor was however desirous of waiting the Arrival of Captain Burney from Siam and obtaining such further information as he might be enabled to collect regarding the views and feelings of the Court of Siam.

Secondly. You will inform the Rajah that being duly recognized as an Independent Sovereign, he is

13. Copy of Governor General's letter to Rajah of Ligore on the ratification of the Treaty, 24 February, 1826.

at liberty to rule his Kingdom without any interference on the part of the Rajahs of Ligore or Salengore. Thirdly. The transmission of the Boonga Mas to Siam depends entirely on himself. It is quite optional with him either to send it or to withhold it.

Fourth. It is also optional with himself to receive and admit the thirty and * Forty men which the Rajah of Ligore proposes to send to Perak, as he may find it convenient. Fifth. The King of Perak need not send any person or persons to Ligore, or any other Siamese State, except when he pleases, of his own free will and accord to do so.

* Sic.

Sixth. The Siamese are bound not to send any Troops to attack Perak.

Seventh. The English Government will not send Troops and do not desire to occupy any part of Perak, provided the Siamese do not occupy or interfere.

You will also give the King of Perak clearly to understand that he may rely on the assistance of the British in expelling any Siamese who may proceed to Perak, and resisting any interference with his Government.

It will be necessary also to explain to the King the necessity of his giving some written document of his wish to be independent and free of all interference. This may be done by a letter addressed to the Honble. the Governor or to the Rajah of Ligore, which will be sent with such intimation as will effectually prevent any future interference.

In respect to Salengore the King must be made to understand that this Government will protect him from any interference from that state, so long as he

maintains himself in independence of Siam by the assistance of the British Government, but if he of his own free will places himself in dependence on Siam, the obligation will cease.

It is particularly desired that you make enquiries as to the presence of any Siamese or Agents of that power being now or having been, as reported, lately at Perak, their objects and Proceedings. If any are found to be there, it will be your duty to warn them to depart forthwith.

The Malay Translator will deliver you a letter for the Rajah of Perak from the Honble. the Governor and you will purchase to the extent of 600 Sa. Rupees worth of presents for the Rajah and petty chiefs for which amount you will receive an advance.

The H. C. Cruiser Antelope and the Schooner Zephyr have been directed to be held in readiness for sea and you can embark on either of the two vessels you prefer. They will proceed in Company and the Commanders directed to place themselves under your orders. A party of 40 men with Native Officers from the Local corps with provisions for 15 days will be embarked and the Master Attendant will provide a suitable accommodation boat for yourself and party to proceed up the Perak river.

I am &c.

The 15 September 1826.

THE SECRETARY further reports that directions were given to the Commanders of the Honble. Company's Cruisers Antelope and Zephyr to place themselves under the orders of Captain Low—to the Master Attendant to provide a suitable accommodation Boat to be attached to the vessels—and to the Storekeeper to embark 20 days Provisions for a party of

40 Sepoys and non-Commissioned Officers of the Local Corps.

THE following Translation of a letter from the Rajah of Tringano to the Honorable the Governor is recorded.

Rajah of Tringano 7 July 1826.

RAJAH of TRINGANO.

Translation of a letter from Paduka Sri Sultan Ahmed the son of Sultan Zenoolabdeen, Rajah of Tringano to the Honble. the Governor of Pulo Penang.

(After Compliments.)

We beg to make known to our friend, that the letter which he sent to us by Captain H. Burney reached us in safety. It is mentioned in that letter that Captain Burney was proceeding to Siam as Agent of the Governor General of Bengal, and that in the event of his visiting our Country on his way We are requested to communicate any thing that we may desire to make known to our friends. We fully comprehend all that is mentioned in our friend's letter.

Moreover, we beg to acquaint our friend that Captain Burney arrived in safety at Tringano, without any accident or mischance, and we had a meeting. We have formed a great partiality for himself—and besides he was an Ambassador from the Governor General of Bengal. We accordingly received him with sincerity and friendship.

Further, the friendship which subsisted between our father the Sultan of Tringano and the former Governors was never broken and has descended unimpaired to our friend. We are extremely anxious that this reciprocal regard and assistance should be

increased and continue so long as the Sun and Moon may endure and for ever. Such is our desire night and day. We have nothing to offer our friend but many compliments. Dated 7: Mohurum 1242—or 7: July 1826.

(A True Translation)

(Signed) JOHN ANDERSON

Translator to Govt.

Prince of Wales Island
The 14 September 1826.

ON the Proposition of the Honble. the Governor. THE SECRETARY reports that a letter was addressed to Captain Burney, Envoy to Siam, requiring him to transmit a Certified Copy of the Treaty lately negociated by him at Siam in the three languages in which it was understood to be written, and also the original of any letters addressed to the Honble. the Governor, of which he had submitted Translations.

READ the following letter from Captain Burney in reply.

ENVOY to SIAM.

Envoy to Siam Septr. 19 1826.

To

John Anderson Esqre.

Secretary to Government.

Sir,

In reply to your letter, just received, I transmit herewith a certified copy of the Treaty in the three languages. In addition to a letter from the Phrá Klang and one from the Sultan of Tringano, both of which have already been delivered, I am aware of only another letter addressed to the Honble. the Governor by the Raja of Ligore, and that I have just forwarded direct to the Governor.

I have &ca.

(Signed) H. BURNEY Captain

Envoy to the Court of Siam.

P. W. Island
September 19th 1826.

Rajah of Kedah.

RAJAH of KEDAH.

Translation of a letter from the Ex Rajah of Kedah to the Honble. R. Fullerton Esquire, Governor of Pulo-Penang.

(After Compliments.)

With respect to my friend's communication to me that Captain Burney had informed my friend I had a large quantity of Muskets in my house, it is true I have Muskets, for at the time of the disturbance of the Siamese, some of my people brought some of my Muskets with them and delivered them to me. I have since purchased four or five, which are now in my house, for I thought that when Captain Burney returned from Siam and I should return to Quedah, I should be in difficulty without Arms. Moreover I had observed that many people, such as Syed Hussein, and others were in possession of Muskets, Blunderbusses in plenty and even Cannon, so that I retained a proper number of Muskets also; but I beg to inform my friend that if it be agreeable to him, I will retain these Arms, and if my friend disapproves of my keeping these Muskets, I will deliver them to my friend, receiving the price according to the present value of these Articles in Pulo Penang at the present time. Such is my representation, and I request my friend will send me a reply in order that I may know, and that my mind may be at ease.

Dated Thursday—12 Taafar 1242.

Penang
The 15 September 1826.

(A True Translation)

(Signed) JOHN ANDERSON

Malay Translator to Govt.

RESOLVED, that the Malay Translator be desired to inform the Rajah that his explanation is satisfactory, and that Government place confidence in his promise that he will not make any preparations calculated to excite any further suspicion,

THE following Engagement proposed to the Rajah of Kedah, consequent upon Captain Burney's Treaty with Siam is recorded.

Engagement.

ENGAGEMENT.

PROPOSED AGREEMENT offered to the EX-RAJAH of QUEDAH.

First. The King agrees to go and reside at a place allotted him within the limits of the Settlement of Malacca.

Second. The King binds himself not to attack, disturb or injure, nor to permit any of his Followers to attack, disturb or injure in any manner the Territory of Quedah, or any other Territory subject to Siam.

Third. The Government of Prince of Wales Island agrees that the Slaves, personal Servants, Family and Kindred of the late King of Kedah shall be released by the Rajah of Ligore and permitted to proceed where they please, and to join the King and reside with him at Malacca, if they desire it.

Fourth. The Government of Prince of Wales Island agrees to pay on account of the support of the King and his family the sum of Ten Thousand Spanish Dollars or Sicca Rupees 21,050 per Annum.

Fifth. The Government of Prince of Wales Island agrees to allot a space of land to be occupied by the King of Quedah and Dependants at Malacca not exceeding Orlongs. *

* sic.

Sixth. The Government of Prince of Wales Island agrees to receive from the King of Quedah the House lately purchased by him and pay the amount of the same, deducting the advance made on that account still due.

Seventh. The Government of Prince of Wales Island agrees to furnish proper accommodation in a suitable vessel for the Transportation of the King and his family to Malacca.

Prince of Wales Island
The 15th September 1826.

THE above submitted to the Rajah of Kedah in the Malayan Language this day.

(Signed) JOHN ANDERSON
Secretary to Govt.

ADJOURNED.

R. FULLERTON

R. IBBETSON

FORT CORNWALLIS

The 20th September 1826.
John Anderson
Secy. to Govt.

Factory Records, Straits Settlements, Vol. 138. pp. 331-342.

FORT CORNWALLIS The 28: September 1826.

AT A COUNCIL—Present

THE HONBLE. ROBERT FULLERTON

Governor—President

and

ROBERT IBBETSON Esquire.

READ and APPROVED the PROCEEDINGS of the 20th Instant.

THE HONBLE the Governor lays before the Board the following letter to his address, from the Rajah of Kedah, in reply to the draft of a proposed Engagement submitted to him on the Instant.

RAJAH of KEDAH.

Rajah of Kedah 21 September 1826.

Translation of a letter from the Rajah of Kedah to the Honble. the Governor of Pulo Penang.

(After Compliments.)

When the Siamese invasion occurred I recollected the engagement of the English Company with my deceased Father, which provided for their assistance towards my father in any difficulty; which promise induced him to grant this Island of Penang to the English Company, having placed entire reliance in the engagement and power of the Company, that support and assistance would be extended by them to his Son and Grandson, because it had never been heard that the Company ever broke any Treaty, and it was known that they even extended their assistance to

all neighbouring States, with whom there existed no engagements and to all who placed reliance upon them and solicited their aid. The Company always assisted them and their confidence never suffered diminution or disappointment. For such was the name of the Company celebrated in all the Countries of India, Java and others; wherefore recollecting and knowing all this, I voluntarily came to Penang, because I placed great reliance upon the engagement above referred to.

Moreover, Governor Phillips sent me a letter requesting me to remain here, and stating that the Governor General of Bengal would assist me, send me back to Kedah, and protected me and shewed me respect. My friend too has done the same and protected me in a very proper manner, which makes me very grateful. I have continued to place unlimited reliance that I should be enabled to return to Kedah, but now Captain Burney has brought a Treaty which I cannot reconcile my mind to; for, as my friend knows, there is no reliance whatever in the Siamese faith or promise. How many letters have they sent to me, calling me back and promising to redeliver over charge of the whole Quedah Country to me and assist me! All these letters I shewed to my friend. The falsity of the Siamese therefore is now made evident, and everything else that they say there is no dependance to be placed in. I cannot therefore comply with the engagement.

I therefore beg my friend to have compassion upon me and to make known to the Governor General of Bengal all the above circumstances, in order that he may be fully informed of them all in every respect. It is my opinion that if the Governor General of Bengal were fully acquainted with the real state of circumstances, he would have pity upon me and adhere to the former

Treaty, thereby enabling me to return to Kedah, so that the name of the English King of Europe, and the Company, would be celebrated, for the Company are faithful to all engagements. I trust therefore, that all my confidence will prove not to have been in vain. But, if the English Company do not assist me, I shall follow my fate. What can I say more? but I shall beg to remove from Pulo Penang and try my luck, according as the Almighty may ordain. Were I to conform to the engagement of Captain Burney, I should suffer great disgrace, and it is far preferable that I should die than be exposed to such shame. I would rather even go by myself, for the Country of Kedah was not a gift from the Siamese, nor was I made King of Kedah by Siamese authority. The Country of Kedah descended to me through a long line of ancestors and my Forefathers were Kings of the Country, without interruption. My father gave Pulo Penang to the Company of his own pleasure, therefore, if it had been a Siamese Country, my father could not have made this gift, and at all events, had it been considered a Siamese Country at that time, there would, no doubt, have been complaints and remonstrance. My friend knows these circumstances. I therefore beg him to have compassion upon me. Such is my great reliance.

(A True Translation)

(Sd.) JOHN ANDERSON

Malay Tr. to Govt.

Penang
The 21 Septr. 1826.

RESOLVED that the Rajah of Kedah be informed that Government is not disposed to press the engagement upon him or to insist upon his departure from the Island, however desirous it may be that His Highness should be induced to remove to Malacca, and if after due consideration it be His Highness's deter-

mination to remain here, pending a reference to the Right Honble. the Governor General in Council, the same protection which has been extended to him since he voluntarily sought an asylum at this Presidency will be continued.

THE PRESIDENT records the following Minute, proposing further instructions to Captain Low on his Mission to Perak.

Minute by the President 21st Septr. 1826.

MINUTE by the PRESIDENT.

Memorandum of Additional Instructions to Captain Low.

Many atrocious acts of Piracy and Murder having been committed of late on the subjects of this Island by Prows said to have come from the Rhio Islands and finding shelter behind the Dinding and Sambelang Islands and supposed also to frequent the Curow River and even to have established themselves at Laxat, within the Territory of Perak, I propose that Captain Low should make the above the subject of particular enquiry and communication to the King of Perak—discover if possible the haunts of those plunderers, and suggest the best means of putting an end to those audacious practices now grown to such a height as to interfere materially with the Native Trade of the Island.

(Sd.) R. F.

21 September 1826.

THE SECRETARY reports that a letter of instructions was addressed to Captn. Low, in foregoing Minute.

THE following letter to the Rajah of Ligore from the Honble. the Governor is recorded.

Rajah of Ligore 23rd Septr. 1826.

To the RAJAH of LIGORE.

Letter from the Honble. Robert Fullerton Esqre. Governor of P. W. Island, Singapore and Malacca to the Rajah of Ligore.

Your Highness has already been apprised of the ratification, by the Right Honble. the Governor General of India, of the Treaty made with Captain Burney in the month of July last year. The Sixth and Seventh Articles thereof which related to Perak have been duly executed on the part of the British Government, and it was consequently a subject of surprise to this Government, to learn, that a party of Siamese had been sent to Perak shortly after the return of the Envoy from hence, which your Highness must be aware is in direct opposition to your own Stipulations.

Upon receiving this unexpected intelligence, I addressed letters to yourself and Son at Kedah, requiring explanation on the subject, but no reply has been received. Your Highness's conduct in sending a party to Perak must be considered a breach of good faith and your neglect to answer the letters a mark of disrespect to this Government, inconsistent with the Friendship which you have possessed *

* sic.

I have hitherto addressed myself to your Highness, as the Channel of communication with the King of Siam; but, if you do not reply to my letters with due respect and attention, I must address myself at once to your Superior. Captain Burney being at Bangkok and conducting an amicable negotiation

with Siam, I did not think it right to interrupt the discussion by any strong measures regarding Perak; but now that the Treaty is so far as Perak is concerned virtually confirmed by the 14th Article of the one now concluded by Captain Burney, it becomes my duty to see the stipulations of the first agreement strictly adhered to. I have accordingly taken proper measures for that purpose, and I now distinctly require your Highness to consider that, if you desire the British Government and that of Siam to remain at peace, you must not interfere with Perak, either by sending Troops there or by sending Emissaries to excite opposition to the King and confusion of the Government; any proceeding of that nature will be considered as a breach of agreement.

I have deputed Captain Burney to explain in person, to your Highness or your Son, my sentiments on this subject, and to hear what you have to say in respect to your proceedings at Perak, as well as to require you forthwith to recall any persons whom your Highness may have have sent to that Country.

(Sd.) R. FULLERTON

Governor.

Prince of Wales Island,
the 23d September 1826.

THE PRESIDENT lays before the Board the following letter from the King of Perak to which he states it is his intention to reply without delay.

King of Perak
27 September
1826.

KING of PERAK.

TRANSLATION of a letter from Sultan Abdullah King of Perak to the Governor of Pulo Pinang.

(After Compliments.)

I send this letter to acquaint my friend that the Siamese who were sent by the Rajah of Ligore with the Rajah Bindahara and Orang Kaya Besar, stated on their arrival, that they intended to return speedily, but they have remained here ten months. They are now however returned. This I make known to my friend. Moreover, with respect to the *Boonga Mas*, I begged delay. On this subject what is my friend's desire, for next to the Almighty and his prophet, my trust and confidence is in my friend, and whether good or evil may result, it had always been my opinion that this Country of Perak can never be separated from the Government of my friend. Further an engagement mutually exchanged, and of which each party has a Copy, cannot be changed or set aside: I am a lowly man and I am under awe of my friend; and of the Siamese I am afraid, for this Country of Perak is a part of the same Continent as Siam; my friend, however, is well acquainted with all my circumstances, and I therefore transfer to my friend the consideration of them all.

In the event of the Siamese sending and requiring the *Boonga Mas* or any thing else, what is my friend's desire ? I am anxious to know speedily.

Moreover, I beg to acquaint my friend with respect to Salengore that a letter has been sent claiming

debts in Perak. What is my friend's decision on this? In my opinion every thing connected with paying or receiving debts as regards Salengore must be determined by my friend, for I have claims also against the deceased King of Salengore amounting to 2787 Dollars for duties—this I represent to my friend.

I send as the bearer of this Che Mussak, to wait on my friend, together with a present of 4 Slabs of Tin for my friend's acceptance.

Dated 17 Safar 1242 or 20: September 1826.
P. W. Island
The 27 September 1826.

(A true Translation.)

A letter exactly similar to the above received by me from the King of Perak with a Bag of fine Tin.

(Signed) JOHN ANDERSON
Malay Tr. to Govt.

ADJOURNED

FORT CORNWALLIS — R. FULLERTON

The 28: September 1826. — R. IBBETSON.

JOHN ANDERSON
Secy. to Govt.

Factory Records, Straits Settlements, Vol. 138, pp. 343-414.

Secret and Political Department.

FORT CORNWALLIS The 5th October 1826.

AT A COUNCIL Present

The Honorable ROBERT FULLERTON
Governor President.

READ and APPROVED the PROCEEDINGS of the 28 Ultimo.

THE HONBLE. the GOVERNOR lays before the Board the following letter addressed by him to the Rajah of Perak in reply to His Highness's letter recorded on the proceedings of last Council.

LETTER from the Honble. Robert Fullerton Esquire Governor of Prince of Wales Island Singapore and Malacca to Sultan Abdullah King of Perak.

I duly received two days ago my friend's letter dated 17th. Saafar, by his Agent Che Mapak * who waited upon me. The contents of my friend's letter are very satisfactory as evincing a desire to prolong the friendly intercourse and connection which has long existed between the Country of Perak and the British Settlements in the Straits of Malacca, and more particularly as testifying a disposition to adhere strictly and in good faith to the engagement entered into last year.

* sic.

Prior to the receipt of my friend's letter I had dispatched Captain Low, as my Agent, with full powers to adjust every thing with my friend respecting the Treaty made with the Rajah of Ligore about a year ago, and now confirmed by the Court of Siam. Captain Low was the bearer of a letter from

me, explaining all particulars, and to him I beg to refer my friend, trusting that he will be received and treated with kindness and confidence.

It is extremely satisfactory to me to find, that the Siamese have now acknowledged my friend's independence, and that through the intervention of the British Government he will be at full liberty to govern his own kingdom as an Independent Sovereign, free from all control; by which it is to be expected and hoped an end will be put to all my friend's anxieties; and all impediments to a free and unrestricted Commerce and intercourse between the Country of Perak and the Settlements of Pinang, Singapore and Malacca will be removed.

I send my friend 2 English shawls and a pair of Pocket Pistols as a token of my regard.

(Sd.) R. FULLERTON
Governor.

Prince of Wales Island
The 1 October 1826.

THE SECRETARY reports that the following letter was addressed to Captain Low, the Envoy to Perak, and dispatched to him on the 1 Instant.

To Envoy to Perak 1: October 1826.

TO CAPT: LOW.

To

CAPTAIN LOW
Envoy to Perak

Sir,

I have the directions of the Honble. the Governor in Council to transmit enclosed copy of a letter to the Honble. the Governor, just received from the King of Perak. From the Tenor of the letter the Honble. the Governor in Council is led to entertain sanguine expectations of the result of your negotiation. Enclosed also is copy of the reply of this date.

It is the desire of Government that you make particular enquiries relative to the pecuniary claims existing between the Rajahs of Salengore and Perak which it is desirable should be brought to an early and amicable adjustment.

You should advise the King to establish himself on some place nearer the mouth of the river, more favorable for communication with this Government than his present residence at Batu or Terussan; and it is desirable that you should arrange with His Majesty some plan of keeping open a regular and frequent intercourse.

I am &ca.

(Sd.) John Anderson
Secretary to Govt.

FORT CORNWALLIS
The 1 October 1826.

THE following letter to the Raja of Kedah from the Honble. the Governor is recorded.

Letter from the Honble. Robert Fullerton Esquire Governor to the Raja of Kedah.

I have duly received my friend's letter of the 21 of last month, in reply to the proposed engagement, submitted tor his consideration. However desirable it may be that my friend should be induced to take up his residence at Malacca, pending a reference to the Right Honble. the Governor General, I am not disposed to press the Engagement upon him, or to insist upon his departure from this Island; and if, after due consideration, it be my friend's determination to remain here, the same protection which has been extended to him since he voluntarily sought an Asylum at this Presidency, will be continued.

I request my friend, however, to weigh in his mind all the circumstances with deliberation.

(Sd.) R. FULLERTON

Governor.

PRINCE of WALES ISLAND

The 1 October 1826.

THE PRESIDENT records the following minute, with two letters from the Raja of Ligore and his reply.

Minute by the President 5: October 1826.

MINUTE by the PRESIDENT.

In submitting the accompanying letters to the Board just received from the Chief of Ligore announcing the recall of the Siamese from Perak, whose presence there produced the transmission of my letters of the 16 December and 27 May, I beg to propose that the Draft of the Letter accompanying be substituted for the one proposed by me on the 20th Ulto. and recorded on that day's proceedings, as it appears the letter has not yet been dispatched, and will now be unnecessary.

(Sd.) R. FULLERTON

5 October 1826.

Enclosure.

TRANSLATION of a letter from the Chow Pya of Ligore to the Honble. R. Fullerton Governor of Pulo Penang.

(After Compliments.)

My friend sent a letter to Kedah to be forwarded to me, but at that time I was at the Capital, which is at a great distance, and the journey requires many days to perform. I have however now received my friend's letter in the spirit of friendship. It is mentioned in my friend's letter, that the Right Honble. Lord Amherst, Governor General of Bengal, has sent a reply to my letter and some things for me. This my friend informs me of, so that I may know, and enquires where I will receive these things, desiring me to acquaint him.

I understand the contents of my friend's letter and am extremely pleased, for friendship with the

English will be promoted and increased far beyond what it was before ; but with respect to receiving the letter and Articles from the Right Honble. Lord Amherst Governor General of Bengal, I am at present residing at the Capital, and have not yet returned ; however let my friend consider what may be proper as regards me. I have to propose two plans, one is to prepare people at Kedah to proceed and receive them at Pulo Penang, the other is to receive them at Kedah. My friend will consider which is best ; I shall follow the desire of my friend, so that everything may be proper. When the proper place is fixed upon I request my friend to send a letter to Kedah, in order that it may be known, which Kon Aksoon and Nei Neeur, who are the bearers of this letter will convey, and they will acquaint my son who resides at Kedah accordingly, so that he may make preparations agreeably to propriety, in conformity to whatever may be agreeable to my friend. When I return from the Capital, I will prepare and settle all business, according to right—which will be made known to the Right Honble. the Governor General of Bengal, so that friendship and cordiality may be promoted and continue undiminished, for it never can be altered or at an end.

This is a letter sent in a spirit of friendship. Written on Friday first day of the ninth month, year Dog.

P. W. Island
The 3d October 1826.

A True Translation

(Signed) JOHN ANDERSON
Malay Translator to Govt.

TRANSLATION of a letter from the Chow Phya of Ligor to the Honble. Robert Fullerton Governor of Pulo Penang.

I have to acquaint my friend that when he sent a letter by the way of Kedah to be forwarded to me, I was at the Capital, Sri Ayootya, engaged on the business of the Right Honble. Lord Amherst Governor General of Bengal, who sent Captain Henry Burney to the Capital. I assisted him so that the Siamese and English Countries might be on amicable terms, and that friendship might be prolonged. When my friend sent me the letter above referred to, I was at the Capital, which is a great distance and requires many days to perform the journey across. But the letter has now reached me and I have received my friend's letter in the spirit of friendship.

My friend, in his letter, refers to the Siamese who have been remaining long at Perak. The contents of my friend's letter I understand; but I have never thought of breaking my engagement, and whatever may have happened at Kedah and Perak, after I left and while I was at the Capital, let not my friend be displeased. The Siamese and Malays who proceeded to Perak, went to accompany the Raja Kechil Mooda, the younger brother of the King of Perak, as my friend formerly knew. The cause of their remaining so long at Perak is, that at the time I went to the Capital, the Raja of Perak sent me a letter and informed me that he had retained the party and that when I returned from the Capital, he would send some Chief to wait on me, accompanied by all my people. I have sent a letter from the Capital to the Raja of Perak, directing the Siamese and Malays belonging to me to return.

Captain Burney came to the Capital and made an engagement at Sri Ayooteya, in which it is mentioned that every thing relative to Kedah and Perak, will be

settled on my return, agreeably to the Treaty which Captain Burney made at the Capital, so that friendship might be established between the Siamese and English and that Amity and great cordiality may be promoted and continue so long as the Sky and Earth may endure.

With respect to the Treaty which Captain Henry Burney made at the Capital, it was engaged by him that he would convey it and obtain the Seal of the Right Honble. Lord Amherst Governor General of Bengal and return to Kedah in the second month and receive in return the letter which bears the Seal of "*Luang*" * to be conveyed to Bengal. When Captain Henry Burney returns with the letter, I shall be very happy, for Kedah and Pulo Penang are very close to each other, and commercial intercourse will be continued with confidence, and friendship much greater than formerly promoted, My son who resides at Kedah is a young man, and if he makes any mistakes, or offends against the Customs in any way; let my friend notice them to him, so that he may follow the way of friendship. With respect to the business on which Captain Henry Burney came to the Capital on this occasion, the great mighty and excellent King evinced abundant favor towards the English and His Exalted Majesty issued a Mandate, conveying compliments to the Right Honble. Lord Amherst, Governor General of Bengal and a letter from the Piya Klang in reply—sent in the spirit of regard and friendship, which Captain Henry Burney conveyed, and every thing is explained in these.

* "Luang" a Siamese word translated by Capt. Burney "Royal."

The Malay Writer who writes the complimentary expressions, is directed to follow the Custom of the Siamese in using Court language but he does not very well understand them. Perhaps the writer of this letter in translating the Siamese Court phrases

into Malay may have employed coarse words, let not my friend be displeased. I send my Compliments with sincerity and a friendly disposition.

Written on Friday 1st Day of the ninth month—year Dog.

P. W. Island
The 3d October 1826.

A True Translation

(Sd.) JOHN ANDERSON
Malay Translator to Govt.

LETTER from the Honble. the Governor to the Rajah of Ligore.

I have just received your two letters of the 1st of the ninth month, announcing the receipt of my letters of the 16 December and 27 May, and intimating your having given orders for the recall of the Siamese who have been residing at Perak for so long a time. While I express my satisfaction at the receipt of this letter as a proof of a desire on your part to adhere to the engagement made in respect to that Country, I must at the same time signify my concern that I did not receive it a few days sooner, as such receipt would have saved me from the trouble and expense of sending a Gentleman to Perak to ascertain the truth of the reports made to me on that subject. I have already heard of the departure of the Siamese and expect the Gentleman sent there to return immediately. You may be assured that you cannot be more desirous of of remaining in peace and harmony than I am, and I beg you to believe that the only mode in which that Peace and good will can be interrupted is the failure of any part of the stipulations lately made—so long as they are observed the intercourse of friendship will be continued with Sincerity on my part. This letter will be forwarded to your Son by Captain Burney, who will also deliver the letter and presents lately received from the Right Honble. the Governor General.

(Sd.) R. FULLERTON.

P. W. Island
5 October 1826.

ORDERED that the following letter be addressed to Captain Burney Envoy to Siam.

To Envoy to Siam 6 October 1826.

To ENVOY to SIAM.

No. 1454.

To

CAPTAIN BURNEY
Envoy to Siam.

Secret Department.

Sir

I am directed by the Honble. the Governor in Council to acquaint you that in consequence of the receipt two days ago of letters from the Rajah of Ligore in reply to the Communications of the Honble. the Governor under date the 16 December and 27 May last, and the recall of the party of Siamese from Perak, the letter, of which the enclosed is a copy, has been substituted for the one dated 23d Ultimo, which was prepared for delivery to you on your proceeding to Kedah.

I have etc.

(Sd.) JOHN ANDERSON
Secretary to Govt.

FORT CORNWALLIS
The 6 October 1826.

READ the following letter from Captain Burney Envoy to Siam in reply to the letter addressed to him on the 25 Ultimo.

Envoy to Siam 3d October 1826.

ENVOY to SIAM.

Prince of Wales Island
3 October 1826

To

John Anderson Esq.
Secretary to Govt.

Sir

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt, on the 30th Ultimo, of your letter No. 1418 under date the 25 Ultimo, and I now proceed to submit the explanations required by the Honble. the Governor in Council.

The Honble. Board is pleased to declare, that in all matters connected with the Malay Peninsula my mission to Siam must be considered in some degree to have failed, and that such would not have been the case, if after the Burmese War had been brought to a successful termination, I had assumed a higher tone and had seriously urged on the Court of Siam all the objects of my Mission, as essential and indispensable to the maintenance of peace between the two States, and if I had endeavored to counteract, and destroy the Raja of Ligore's influence by representing him as a most troublesome neighbour to the British, and as the person of all others the most likely to bring on a rupture between the two Governments.

Had I permitted my personal feelings to have guided me at Bangkok, I can assure the Honble. Board, that I should have left that Capital before I had resided there one month. Could I also have

made the known views and Sentiments of the Honble. Board, the sole guide in the conduct of my negociations, I should certainly have urged upon the Court of Siam all matters connected with the Malay Peninsula to the last extremity. But the Honble. the Governor in Council will permit me to submit that the following parts of the papers furnished for my instruction led me to believe that conciliation was to be the leading feature of my Mission ; that in addition to the objects connected with the Burmese War and the release of the Inhabitants of the Coast of Tenasserim, I was empowered, and in the event only of a favorable opportunity to endeavor to effect but two objects, improvement in our commercial relations with Upper and Lower Siam, and restoration of the King of Quedah ; and that the Supreme Government was not willing to incur any risk in favor of the King of Quedah, and not prepared to undertake the duty of affording to the Malay States complete protection against Siam.

Letter from the Govr. Genl. in Council to the Govt. of P. w. Island dated 15 May 1825.

" We have not any objection ourselves to try the experiment of a Mission to the King of Siam but the character of the Mission must, we apprehend, be in the first instance entirely complimentary and conciliatory.

" Should circumstances prove favorable, the Envoy will of course be empowered to combine with the above objects; and endeavor to effect the desired inprovement in our Commercial relations with Siam, and to secure every practicable degree of freedom and facility to our Trade, both in Upper and Lower Siam, as also the restoration of the King of Quedah to his Territories on the terms and footing already discussed. We have so little to offer at present in the way of equivalent, that we consider it vain to hope that any advantage beyond those above specified can be gained by negotiation. Indeed we do not very clearly perceive how the Government

of Siam and the Rajah of Ligore will ever be persuaded to forego the profit which it seems they derive from the direct occupation of Kedah, unless we are prepared to tender Tavoy or Mergui as an inducement.

"The conduct of the Rajah of Ligore towards Perak and his manifestly hostile designs against Salangore present questions replete with difficulty and embarrassment, and we find it impossible to lay down any precise rules for your guidance in the absence of all communication of the Sentiments of the Home Authorities regarding the extension of the Siamese Supremacy, or rather absolute Government over the whole of the Malayan Peninsula, and the degree of counteractions, if any, to be opposed by the British Government.

Letter from the Govr. Genl. in Council to the Govt. of P. W. Island dated 19 November 1824.

"We fully coincide in the view taken by your Government of the advantage which would result from the Siamese being prevailed on to relinquish all claims of Supremacy over the whole of the Malayan Peninsula South of Patani, but we entertain the strongest doubt of the practicability of inducing the arrogant and haughty Court of Siam to wave pretensions so intimately affecting its pride and consequence, and we question therefore the expediency of agitating the proposition at all.

The question of Siamese supremacy however was mooted by me at Bangkok in obedience to the directions of the Honble. Board, and the declarations in my memorials of the 13th February, 28 March and 13 May, and in my conferences with the Siamese Ministers on the 22d April, 14th 16th and 26th May and 2d of June would have shewn, I had hoped, that this object was seriously urged by me on the Court of Siam. I possessed no authority to pledge the British Government to protect the Malay States, but I took upon myself to announce to the Siamese Ministers, my belief that the British Government

will not permit the Siamese to invade or oppress those States; and I persuaded the Court of Siam to engage, that our Commerce and Intercourse with those States, shall not be interrupted or obstructed by Siam, but shall continue as they have heretofore been, well knowing that it will be impossible for the Siamese to oppress those States, or to molest their Government, without interrupting our Commerce, for the preservation of which alone it appeared to me to be our policy to interpose in favor of those states. The whole of the 12th Article was drawn out and translated into the Siamese tongue by myself, and I own, I had flattered myself, that it was worded in precisely the terms which my situation required. It does not commit my Government to ulterior procedures but leaves it at full liberty either to wait and interfere hereafter whenever the Siamese encroachments upon Tringano and Kalantan shall render it indispensably necessary, or to ratify the Article with an immediate declaration of its determination to adopt the Course represented by me to the Court of Siam, as the probable future policy of the British Government with respect to the Malay States. Had I admitted as the Honble. Board apprehends, the complete supremacy of Siam over these States, there would have been no occasion whatever for the 12th Article. The other Stipulations of the Treaty fully provide for our commercial Intercourse with all places and Countries subject to the Siamese—coupling this Article then with the whole tenor of my communications with the Siamese Ministers, and particularly with the following declarations made to them in my last Memorial on the subject on the 13th May, the British Government may surely assume the construction desired by the Honble. Board, namely, that the Article leaves to us the right of opposing all forcible interference of the Siamese; as also the right of direct Treaty and negotiation with the Malay States provided only that we do not go and molest, attack or disturb the present Malay Governments.

The English admit that certain Malayan States have been accustomed to present the Gold and Silver flowers to Siam in token of respect, friendship and * because Siam is powerful and those States are small and require protection. But the English cannot admit that those States are subject to Siam, in the same manner as her own provinces of Ligor and Singora. Their governments, laws and Customs are widely different from those of Siam. The English, Captain Burney believes, will not permit the Siamese to invade or oppress the States of Tringano and Kalantan.

* (Space here in the original.)

I found Siam in regular communication with Tringano and Kalantan and the latter state looking up to her protection against the former. The Chiefs of both States have accepted Siamese titles, and have for many years transmitted the Boonga Mas to Siam. The Siamese Ministers preferred the terms of the 12th Article to one directed more openly against their pride and consequence, because it appeared to them not to authorize us to cut off all communication between Siam and those States or to prevent the transmission of the complimentary Boonga Mas; measures which I had no authority to insist upon, and no prospect of effecting without laying the Seeds of a War between Siam and the British Government. I have just learned that the Sultan of Tringano is dead and that the evils which I state in the 237 Para: of my Journal as likely to arise from his appointing a younger Son to succeed him have begun to make their appearance. The Sultan's brother, the Rajah Muda, has put aside the pretensions of both Sons and assumed the Government. But the elder Son, I think, will not readily resign his claims, and whether the struggle shall be left to be determined by Siam, to which one party will certainly appeal, or otherwise, the interference of the British Government is a question, that will probably [require] immediate solution.

The Honble. Board declares that the 13 Article of the Treaty gives the Raja of Ligor the virtual acknowledgment of a right tacitly allowed but never hitherto distinctly admitted. But I beg to submit Mr. Crawford in his negotiation with the Court of of Siam four years ago, distinctly and unequivocally admitted the complete right of Siam over Quedah. He states in his report, "I opened the subject (of the invasion of Quedah) by admitting at once, the dependence of Quedah on Siam stating that this point had been fully enquired into by the most Noble the Governor General of India and been conceded without hesitation." I added that the Raja of Queda, though dutifully obedient to his liege the King of Siam &ca.

Letter addressed to Mr. Secy. Swinton on the 2 July 1812.

I stated in my report of the 31 August last year, that the Raja of Ligor spoke with much asperity against the King of Queda, that I had failed in bringing him to any positive engagement in favor of the King, but that I hoped the 7th Article of the Preliminary Treaty, even such as it was, would enable me to introduce at Bangkok, all my negotiations regarding Queda, directly through the party most interested in retaining it and against whose opposition Mr. Crawford found it impossible to succeed in 1822. Unprovided with any means for making the general interests of the Court of Siam in other quarters outweigh the more immediate views of the Raja of Ligore and his Nephew the Wangna, I saw that it would be necessary for me to conciliate these Individuals and their party at Bangkok, and that if I failed in removing Queda from their Grasp, I should at least secure their cordial co-operation towards effecting the other objects of my Mission. Whatever might have been the real intentions of the Raja of Ligor during the negotiation of the Preliminary Treaty at Queda, there is no question, that, on his arrival at Bangkok he was obliged, like every other Siamese Provincial

Governor, or Subordinate Chief, to adopt, implicitly and religiously the views and feelings of the leading members of the Court. The King of Siam we found was well inclined to our wishes with respect to Queda, but the Wangna under whose especial superintendence the Southern portion of the Siamese Empire is placed, and into whose separate Treasury, are received all the Revenues of Queda, amounting, we were told, to 30,000 Dollars per Annum, was most decidedly opposed to the arrangement, proposed by us. Every attempt that I made to press the subject of Queda on the Court of Siam, irritated and exasperated the Wangna, who, I heard, sent down orders to fortify Queda, and who, on one occasion, I learnt from a source to which I could not refuse credit, although I ridiculed it at the time, proposed to the Ministers to hang me for presuming to vex the Court with representations concerning Queda, contrary to the Tenor of the Governor General's letter to the King of Siam, and therefore without any authority from his Lordship. The injudicious communication which the King of Queda opened with Ava in 1824, had confirmed all the charges, that had previously been made against him at Bangkok of secret and treasonable correspondence with the Burmese, and had rendered the whole of the Siamese Ministers to a man opposed to his restoration. Indeed, all our exertions at Bangkok failed in discovering a single individual well disposed to the King of Quedah, and under these circumstances I saw, that if I carried the Quedah question, I should carry nothing else, and that I had to make my selection of placing our relations with Siam either on a conciliatory and friendly, or on an unsettled and hollow footing. I saw also that the only Treaty to be made with such a state as Siam was one which it would be her interest and advantage to keep.

Admitting to the fullest extent, maintained by the most zealous advocate in favor of the King of Queda that his father sought a connexion with the British

* ? belief.

Government and ceded this Island to it in the behalf * that he would thereby secure our protection against Siam, and admitting even that Mr. Light encouraged such belief, there is nothing in my humble judgment more clear and indisputable in the whole history of our relations with Quedah, than the steady and invariable determination of the Supreme Government not to be led into an embarrassing participation in the interests and concerns of either Quedah or Siam. Amicable though, at times, urgent negotiation was all that I considered myself justified in using, and when that failed, I took advantage of the influence of the party immediately benefited by such failure to render it less disadvantageous to our Interests and to effect the other objects of my mission. This procedure on my part has led the Honble. Board to contrast my success and failure in a point of view, more unfavorable to the Raja of Ligor than I respectfully think he deserves. Nothing could be fairer and more natural in him and his friends, than to exert themselves, which they certainly did most strenuously, to counter balance my failure in matters in which they were immediately interested, by securing me success [in] all the other objects of my Mission. Without such exertions on their part I am satisfied that I should have left Siam without effecting even the release of the Burmese Prisoners.

The termination of the Burmese War did not supply me with so good and availing an argument as the Honble. Board believes. The abortive negotiations at Patanago gave the Siamese Ministers a very great advantage over me, the circumstance of our Army not having taken the Capital of Ava materially reduced, as I state in my Journal, the impression which our successes would have created. Even after the receipt of a copy of the Treaty concluded at Yandaboo, accounts were daily brought to Bangkok of some foul Act of treachery committed by the Burmese. These reports were believed by the Court of Siam to the last moment of

my negotiations with it. They are, I am confident, still taken to Bangkok, and still believed there. At my distance from, and with my limited communications with the Seat of War, these reports, at the same time that they impaired the effect of our successes in the minds of the Siamese Ministers, obliged me to found arguments upon the successful termination of the War with more caution and hesitation than what I had used after the Peace signed at Patanago. The Court of Siam is divided into two parties. The one, at the head of which is the King, is intelligent, moderate, and really disposed to cultivate friendly relations with the British Government. The other party is headed by the Wangna, and is characterized by the conceit,* ignorance, natural to the Siamese. The Wangna is an important personage in the Siamese Government. He is not only [in] special charge of the Southern portion of the Kingdom but besides at the head of its Military Establishment. He must be consulted by the King's Ministers on all public Acts of His Majesty. He has his own Court and Ministers, corresponding in number and duties with those belonging to the King, and he receives one third of the whole Revenue of the Kingdom. To render such a personage discontented with my negotiations would only have been to lay the foundation of a War between the two States. As a proof of his Influence and feelings I may only point out, that the moment I conceded Queda, I saw all the other objects of my mission would be attained. Granting, however, that I had adopted the high tone with respect to the King of Queda supposed by the Honble. Board and that it had succeeded, I beg permission to follow up the consequence to which it would have led. We should have been obliged to have fixed a Military force at Queda with the King, and in fact to have assumed charge of the Country, for we cannot suppose him capable of ruling the Kingdom which he misgoverned when supported by

* and

his Ministers and other chiefs, now when he has not a single respectable adherent. We should have lost at least 10,000 souls from our population on Wellesley Province, where they have now settled themselves as useful subjects, but whence no person acquainted with the character of the Malay can doubt they would return to their former homes. We should have rendered the Siamese and the Raja of Ligor discontented, and much more jealous and distrustful, by which means our commercial intercourse with Upper and Lower Siam would have been seriously obstructed, if not entirely cut off, and we should have had to provide in the hills and forests of Queda, and on the confines of Ligor, Singora, Merdilong and Patani, against all those evils and dangers redoubled, which are believed to threaten us whilst the Raja of Ligor and the Siamese are in the immediate neighbourhood of this Island, and of all our means of defence and chastisement. There never could have been any good understanding between the King of Quedah and the Siamese, and indeed I think that by his restoration on such terms the British Government would soon have been drawn on to Ligor and even to Bangkok, whilst the resources of Queda would not have met a hundredth part of all this expense. I entreat then the Honble. Board to believe that there was no want of the most anxious consideration on my part before I came to this conclusion—unless I can effect the restoration of the King of Queda by amicable negotiation, and make an arrangement to which it will be the Interest of the Siamese to keep, I had much better concede the point.

I must here apprize the Honble. Board that according to the Constitution of the Siamese Government no writing can be shewn to the King, until after the Six Ministers forming the Cabinet, have examined and ascertained that it is fit to meet the Royal Eye. Expressions in one or two of my early

Memorials to the Minister were objected to, and upon my refusing to alter them, I was privately assured that the Documents had not been presented to the King. Knowing His Majesty to be the most enlightened and moderate man of the Court, and well disposed towards us, I made it a study in my later Memorials to produce my Arguments and representations in such moderate though urgent language, as to deprive the Ministers of all pretext for suppressing my Papers. Every Appeal which I would * get to the King from his Ministers was successful.

* ? could

I do not see the necessity for the King of Queda being called to be a party of the Treaty, or to make a final renunciation of all future claims on his kingdom, and at all events he can never be expected to agree to such Acts, until he is peremptorily assured that the British Government will not restore him by force. So far from ever having received such assurance, he has on the contrary been always buoyed up with hopes on our part of a forcible interference, and he is even at this moment impressed with a belief that the Governor General will yet afford him adequate aid to recover his Territory. Without such aid he and all his followers are well aware, how useless it will be for them to attempt to carry his threats into execution. No native Power in this Neighbourhood is capable of affording him efficient aid against the Siamese, and I do not think it is likely to be the Policy or interest of any European Power to interfere in his behalf, or to take possession of such a Country as Quedah. I saw that it would be vain to expect any settled relations could be formed between the Siamese and this Government so long as the King of Quedah and his Partizans remained on this Island, and seeing this I conceived I should be justified in affording to the Court of Siam a gratifying and decisive proof of our desire of maintaining friendly relations with it, and of the falsehood of the numerous tales which are daily taken to it,

that the King of Quedah and his followers are supported and encouraged by us to molest and disturb the Siamese at Quedah. I deeply regret that the Honble. Board does not see any corresponding benefit to us in the establishment of fixed and friendly relations with Siam and of prudent provisions for the settlement of questions relating to boundaries and refugees, in the increased freedom to trade conceded in Upper and Lower Siam, in the release of the King of Queda's family and kindred, on the abolition of the system of farming the different rivers of Queda and obstructing our intercourse with the Eastern and inland Countries of the Malay Peninsula, and in the abolition of the heavy duty levied upon the exportation of Grain from Quedah to this Island. Some of these evils which are now to be removed, constituted the strongest motives for our desiring to restore the King of Quedah.

That the King of Queda is entitled to every protection and the most liberal provision from the British Government is undeniable, but I respectfully submit that our duty toward him is too rigorously viewed when it is supposed to preclude me coupling this protection and provision with such terms as may secure our own own peace and tranquillity. Of course, His Highness is at liberty to refuse acquiescence to our terms, but I do not see any chance of his doing so after he has once been positively assured of our determination not to employ forcible interference in his support. I infer also from his conduct two or three years ago, when apprized of the sentiments of the Supreme Government respecting his project of collecting and Arming his dispersed followers to attack Queda, that such threats are merely made to try us, and that he is well aware of the folly and hopelessness of attempting to execute them. But after all, the removal of the King of Queda to another place of residence, is a conditional engagement. The clause at the close of

the 13 Article, with respect to the export duty upon grain at Queda, providing against any unwillingness on our part to perform this engagement. I certainly understood, and I think so did the Siamese negotiators, that the stipulation for our not permitting the King of Quedah or any of his Followers, to attack, disturb, or injure in any manner the Territory of Queda, or any other Territory subject to Siam pledged us so far only as the King of Queda continued to live under our protection and at our expense. If the Honble. Board believes that His Highness is likely to resign these advantages and to receive support from other quarters, it may be expedient to accompany the ratification of the Treaty with a Declaration of the Extent to which the British Government considers itself pledged against attempts on Ligor and Siam by the King of Queda. It is manifestly our Interest to prevent the King from throwing himself into the hands of others and interrupting our peace and Commerce.

On the subject of the 14 Article of the Treaty, the Honble. Board objects to the insertion of provisions for sending the Boonga Mas and for receiving certain persons in a friendly way by Perak. Although I entertained no doubt of the real Sentiments of the King of Perak I had nothing to show the Siamese Negotiators to contradict the assurances of several of the Chiefs of Perak, who had pressed the Rajah of Ligore to proceed to that Country, and who had accepted Siamese titles. The Government of Perak appears to be much divided, and the weaker party, aware of its weakness, called in the Siamese, without whose interference it could never have gained its own ends. The Party of the Rajah of Ligor's followers at Perak, noticed by the Honble. Board, was carried there by the *Raja Kechil Muda* and *Orang Caya besar* who, I understand, have accepted their present titles of *Raja Bindahara* and *Raja Makota* from the Raja of Ligor,

and who detained the Siamese to support them against the opposition of the other Perak Chiefs. I had heard at Bangkok of this party, and upon remonstrating against the measure with the Raja of Ligor, I was told that it consisted of a very few Siamese—that the Majority were Inhabitants of Perak and that it had been sent to escort *Raja Kechil Muda* and *Orang Caya besar* back to Perak. I explained to the Raja in as strong language as I could use, that if this party remained at Perak in breach of his Preliminary Treaty, it would be forcibly ejected by this Government, and I am happy to find from some Messengers who arrived here yesterday with letters from His Highness from Bangkok, that upon receipt of the Honble. the Governor's communications, he sent down orders for the Siamese to quit Perak. If Captain Low procure the public declaration of the Raja of Perak's Sentiments respecting Siamese connections, as submitted by me to the Honble. the Governor, we shall possess sufficient grounds for supporting that Chief's independence, and foreclosing all future Siamese interference. One of the most important objects connected with the Malayan Peninsula desired for so many years by the British Government to prevent the extension of Siamese Conquest to the vicinity of Malacca, will then be most satisfactorily and quietly accomplished under the direction of the Honble. Board.

I feel much mortification at observing the very insignificant value which the Honble. Board puts upon the result of my exertions at Bangkok as connected with the Commercial objects of my mission. The trade by Native Junks is conducted by private Chinese Merchants at Bangkok and it is one to which the Court of Siam is as yet indifferent—as a proof of which I may state that during the whole of my negotiations, no attempt was ever made to obtain any reciprocal advantage for that trade, or to secure a pledge even that the present very moderate duties and

anchorage charges levied upon it at our Ports should be continued. This indifference however, on the part of the Court of Siam, under which the trade has increased and prospered, has begun to change, and during the two last years new duties have been imposed upon the Chinese Junks trading with our Ports. So much have these additional duties been increasing, that the Chinese Traders, before our departure from Bangkok, petitioned the Court to place their Commerce upon a fixed and more moderate System of duties "in the same *advantageous* manner "as the English had secured by Treaty." There is however no Security for the continuance of the Trade with Siam by native Junks, and at any rate it must not be forgotten, that whilst our Ships can navigate at all Seasons, those vessels make but one voyage during the year. Messrs. Hunter and Mallock have certainly found it advisable not to reside permanently at Bangkok, but they commenced injudiciously, by making enormous presents to the Siamese Officers, by occupying a house immediately under the Eye of the Phra Klang, and by supplying Goods upon Credit, procedures which nothing but their temporary departure from Bangkok can enable them to alter. They are however decidedly of opinion that much benefit may be derived from the trade of Siam by making occasional visits to Bangkok; and that such a course is advantageous no proof can be more striking than that afforded by the Surat Traders, who, notwithstanding all the exactions and vexations of the present system still send a vessel there annually. I witnessed the distress and extortion experienced by the *Nakhoda* of a Surat vessel in December last, and I was much surprised indeed to find that he is again gone this year to pass through the same sufferings. Merchants will, of course, judge for themselves as to the best mode of trading with Siam and the provisions of the present Treaty will at least supply them with better *data* than they have hitherto possessed, for estimating

the probable amount of Imports to be levied at Bangkok upon their consignments. That the present Treaty will at once change a System which has existed for Centuries, I do not presume. Most probably whenever the European Merchant interferes with the speculations of the Phra Klang and his Officers, who are unhappily all Traders, their influence will still be secretly and powerfully employed against him. But as the present Treaty was not dictated to the Siamese, as it was discussed and originally written in their own tongue, as it was in truth the result of Indian and not European Diplomacy, and, above all, as it is the manifest interest and advantage of Siam to keep it, I do hope and trust that its provisions will be generally respected and maintained. If the Honble. Board cannot recommend the ratification of this Treaty, our relations with Siam will, of course, become much more unsettled and unsatisfactory than they have ever been. Her distrust and jealousy and prejudices will receive most unpleasant and perhaps embarrassing accession. At no period of our history in India could we so well afford, as at the present moment, to conciliate the Siamese by giving them a proof of our moderation and forbearance. A Majority of the Court of Siam is well aware of our power of enforcing compliance with all our wishes, and no sort of discredit can now certainly result to the British Government from acquiescing in a refusal of one or two of its wishes on the part of the King of Siam.

The Honble. Board condemns my having maintained such friendly communication with the Raja of Ligor. But putting aside the great relief which I personally experienced from addressing an acute and intelligent person, acquainted with our Customs and character, instead of the vain, arrogant and ignorant Siamese Ministers, I beg to assure the Honble. Board, that for me to have attacked or denounced the Raja of Ligor

would have been the best possible way of raising him in the estimation of the Court of Siam, and of increasing his influence. Mr. Crawfurd's charges against the Rajah at Bangkok in 1822 made not the slightest impression, and the strong language which I used against His Highness at my conferences with the Ministers on the nights of the 10th May and 2d June and in my Memorial of the 13 May, were matters of secret joy to the Raja, although they vexed him at the time. Not he only, but every other Siamese Chief, dreads nothing so much as the imputation of cultivating intimacy with a European. Those who privately gave me the most assistance, often entreated me not to speak well of them to others, and sometimes I know before their superiors, gratuitously aspersed me. The Raja of Ligor lived in incessant apprehension of being charged with cultivating too great an Intimacy with me. He on one occasion introduced * me to the Wangna in the presence of a person who reported it to me, and whose veracity I had no reason to doubt; and His Highness was afraid to call upon me, or to allow his Family to visit mine, although at Ligor the most cordial Civilities had passed between us. To hold His Highness up to the Court of Siam as a most troublesome Neighbor to us, would tend only to strengthen his credit, and if the Honble. Board be still anxious to counteract and destroy His Highness's Influence at Bangkok, I can recommend no more certain mode than to draw him on at Quedah into such close and friendly relations with us, as he is disposed, I know, to maintain when distant from his jealous and mistrustful Court. I have just heard that orders have been sent down from Bangkok to throw open immediately the Trade in Grain at Queda, a circumstance that has excited much satisfaction among our *Chinese population*.

* traduced

I shall do myself the honor to fulfil the instructions of the Honble. Board as to delivering at Quedah

the letters addressed to the Raja of Ligor and ascertaining the nature and object of the equipments said to be preparing there. That the Malays should still report such preparations to be designed against this Island is another proof of the impossibility of establishing any settled relations with the Siamese, so long as the Raja of Quedah's hopes of our forcible interference in his favor are not at an end. I have already stated that some of the fortifications at Quedah were ordered from Bangkok and I feel persuaded that these other preparations are purely defensive, and that the very Malays who bring us reports of the hostile intentions of the Siamese carry the same reports to Quedah. Indeed the King of Queda openly declares his determination of proceeding to attack the Siamese, who are no doubt led to believe by the falsehoods of secret Emissaries, that the King's determination receives our sanction and support.

The Honble. Board may be assured that it is the schemes of ambition of the Wangna and his party at Bangkok, which have brought the Raja of Ligore into the vicinity of this Island, and that the latter Chief is implicitly bound by and actually obeying the dictates of the former, who I learnt from the best authority at Bangkok, proposed to bring, not only the Southern Malay states, but even the Kingdom of Acheen, under his Authority. This extensive plan of conquest has now I hope met with a decided check, and although we may not make the Wangna retreat, we can certainly put a stop to his advance, and of this the King of Siam is well aware.

I beg the Honble, Board will excuse the length to which my explanations have extended, and consider such length as a real proof of my respect for its authority. I indulge a hope that these explanations will induce the Honble. Board to relieve me from some portion of the anxiety and distress, which a

knowledge of its sentiments respecting the results of my mission has created, and I may, here certainly assure the Honorable Board, that I could not wish to set my worst enemy a more difficult task than to send him to Bangkok, to negotiate matters connected with the Malay Peninsula, without authority or means for employing effectual intimidation,

I have &ca.

(Sd.) H. BURNEY Captain

Envoy to the Court of Siam.

I beg to enclose the translation of a letter which the Raja of Ligor's Messengers from Bangkok delivered to me Yesterday and which I believe His Highness considers as a confidential communication.

(Sd.) H. BURNEY.

Enclosure.

LETTER from the Raja of Ligore to Captain Burney received at Prince of Wales Island on the 2 October 1826.

(After Compliments.)

Be it known to my friend that I send Khan Aksoon and Nai Num with letters to the Honble. Robert Fullerton Governor of Penang respecting the business of increasing the friendship between Queda and Penang, and I remember my friend and I have not forgotten him, expecting to receive intelligence of my friend, who I request will let me know by letter when he proceeds to Bengal. Before my friend proceeds to Bengal, let him beg of the Governor of Penang, to continue on good terms with me and to be kind to my Son who resides at Queda. My Son is yet a young man, if he errs in any matter, do not let the Governor of Penang retain anger against him, but let him send a letter pointing out to my son how friendship may be promoted. Henceforth we must follow the Treaty which was concluded at Bangkok, and maintain it without deviation with mutual sincerity and affection, not permitting such to know end or interruption, so long as the Heaven and Earth endure. If my friend return from Bengal I shall rejoice exceedingly. I watch my friend, and I have not forgotten him. Letter of Friendship written on Friday, on the 1st day of the 9th increasing Moon Year Dog 8. (4th August 1826).

Translated from the Siamese

(Sd.) H. BURNEY.

UPON which the President records the following Minute.

Minute by the President.

MINUTE by the PRESIDENT.

I have read with attention the reply of Captain Burney to the letter addressed to him on the 3d Instant, the few observations I have now to offer arise out of an attentive reconsideration of all the papers that have passed, and particularly those which preceded, and in a great degree, induced the Mission of Captain Burney to Bangkok. The Arguments used by that Gentleman in justification of the 13th Article, amount merely to the enumeration of all the evils and inconveniences which must, according to his view of the case, have attended the completion of the main object of his Mission, namely the restoration of the King of Quedah. The drift of Captain B's. argument appears to be the establishment of two Positions, 1st. That the restoration of the King of Queda was unattainable, 2d. That if attainable, more evil than good would have resulted; however useful and appropriate these observations might have been, if urged as a ground for holding back the Mission, made as they are now, their object can only be considered the lessening of the benefits of a concession which he has failed to obtain. These Arguments were all duly considered, before the Mission was sent on, and if Captain Burney really entertained such opinions, it is to be regretted he undertook the duty, the declaration of such indeed, so completely at variance with the substance of his Memorial, addressed to the Supreme Government, if made in time, would have put a stop to his Embassy as far as we were concerned. The knowledge of such preconceived opinions would at once have established the inexpediency of committing the negotiation to one who had made up his mind to consider success rather inconvenience than advantage, nor

do the opinions of Captain Burney now appear entitled to any consideration; the personal character of the King has nothing to do in the affair; Kings like other people, are sometimes active and efficient, sometimes otherwise; the object of this Government has always been to replace the subverted Malayan State, to interpose a quiet and peaceable neighbor between ourselves and a troublesome one, to maintain in that situation such States as were still Independent. The mischiefs of Siamese proximity are nowhere more fully and more justly described than by Captain Burney himself, and I am free to confess that the recovery of the lost reputation of this Government has also been throughout a very material consideration with me; for however viewed by us, it is indisputable, that the King of Queda has always been considered, by the surrounding Nations, as our Ally, whom we were bound to protect, and that our character has materially suffered by his abandonment, with what justice I leave it to be determined by reference to the terms and conditions on which the Island was originally ceded to us by the Father of the present King; Quedah at that period was a Tributary neither of Ava nor of Siam; those Nations were then contending for superiority; and being in the proximity of Quedah, the weaker State, like others similarly situated, was compelled to assist, sometimes one, sometimes the other—on some occasions both, at the same time. The Boonga Mas was occasionally sent to both, and the object of Quedah seeking alliance and connection with the British Government by the cession of this Island was expressly declared to be the securing of a more powerful Ally, capable of protecting her against both, and in the 6th Article of the first Treaty that object is expressly declared. I make these quotations and references to shew the origin of our Political connection with Quedah, with no intention whatever of inferring that actual hostility would now be justifiable for the purpose of restoring the King of Quedah—the time for

that has long passed away. Quedah was Independent at the period our connection began, the maintenance of that independance was with the King the sole object of that connection * had as full a right to seek our Protection by the cession of the Island, and we to afford it, as the Siamese had to destroy that Independance. It suited not our Policy to afford our Protection, and there can be no question that for the want of it Quedah subsequently fell under complete subjection to Siam after that State had gained the complete ascendency on these Countries without completing * hostility on account of the King of Quedah. I must insert that when the question became the subject of negotiation, every effort of diplomacy ought to have been exerted in his favor. Intimidation certainly would not constitute justifiable means for attaining an unjustifiable end, but on the demand of the restoration of the King of Queda there is no injustice. The subversion of the Malay Government of Quedah was itself the most unjustifiable Act that ever passed under our observation, and in seeking its restoration we are seeking only to retrieve the error of our past forbearance in permitting an act which might have been prevented. The difficulties alluded to by Captain Burney and the consequences as likely to arise are purely imaginary. I firmly believe that had the British Governmentat any one period declared the King of Quedah under their protection, and only evinced an intention of defending him, that he never would have been molested, and even the show of opposition made in time would have effectually saved him from expulsion by the Siamese, and without even the danger of a rupture with that arrogant but really imbecile State. In all these opinions, I am fully borne out by another good authority, the former Envoy to Siam, and still stronger by Captain Burney himself in his letter of 20: April 1825. I quote the paragraph in question—

"It is to be deeply regretted that on the first arrival "of the Ligorean Forces at Kedah a small detachment,

* ? He

* Some words appear to be omitted here.

"and a very small one would have been sufficient, had "not been sent there to drive them out again. I am "convinced that such a measure would not have "brought on any serious dispute with Siam, and the "Pya of Salang assured me that at Bangkok very "little interest is felt regarding Kedah, and that it "was not until the Chow Pya had for many years been "reporting the disaffection of the King of Kedah that "he at length received a permission simply to do as "he pleased against that Monarch." I cannot doubt that had the restoration of the King been seriously urged as essential and indispensible to the maintenance of harmony, that it would have been conceded. Of this we have the direct admission of Captain Burney himself in the following words—"My own belief was "that if I had broken off the conference and prepared "to quit the Country the Court would have yielded "the point rather than have permitted me to depart." I am at a loss to discover what object has been gained in compensation for the concession of the one so important to the credit and reputation of the British Character. Of the Impolicy of being intimidative much has been said. Can Captain Burney really imagine the Siamese to be tangible by any other sentiment, can he suppose that the return of the people carried away from under the British Flag at Tenasserim resulted from any good feeling, from any impulse but the fear of our power, can he suppose that the same course which produced the one restoration would have failed in the other. In dwelling so pointedly on the necessity of gaining over the good will of the Chief of Ligore and of his relation the Wangna, Captain Burney has apparently quite forgotten the Memoir addressed to the Supreme Government as well as the letter addressed to us while on his Mission to Poongah. All his plausible expectations held out from that quarter mainly induced the recommendation of the Mission to Siam. The Chief of Salang was there declared to be the intended medium of communication

Para. 188 of the Journal.

and much was then expected from his friendship with Queda and animosity to the Chief of Ligore. The objections to the use of the medium of Ligore are there urged in most decided terms. The subsequent visit to Quedah, the Preliminary agreement entered into, and the specious promises of that Chief, has no doubt led Captain Burney to abandon his first plan. These promises were certainly calculated to excite hopes of the most desirable result, but it is to be lamented that Captain Burney should have allowed that Chief to gain such entire ascendency over his mind after so complete a breach of them, the effect of which has been just such as might have been expected, the Chief of Ligore and the Wangna have carried every point they could desire. Captain Burney admits that the measures adopted by this Government for augmenting our Military and Marine Force much facilitated his first negotiation at Quedah. Of this there can be little doubt, the hostile intention of Ligore had been entirely abandoned and 100 of his largest Prows sent away before Captain Burney returned from Bengal and the Preliminary Agreement was assented [to] by the Chief of Ligore, on the reflection that by assuming a menacing attitude, and bringing such a force to the neighbourhood of a British Settlement he had subjected himself to our resentment. It is much to be regretted that the subsequent style of communication used by Captain B. removed that wholesome impression. An adherence to the same determined line would have without doubt produced the ratification as it did the conclusion of the Treaty. It is now well ascertained that the Siamese never intended to assist us against the Burmese. They did indeed make many professions. They kept their armed Force hovering over the weakest part of our position, ready to avail themselves of any disaster that might happen. They invaded the Tenasserim Coast, menaced Martaban, carried away people under

See page 209 Captn. B's Journal.

our protection, even though they held Certificates from British Officers. Captain Burney observes as another proof that the approach of the Siamese Detachments during the last War towards Martaban was guided by any other views, than those of friendship towards us. I have discovered that not the smallest respect or attention was paid to the Inhabitants of those Towns which were known to have been taken possession of by us. I possess a Certificate in the Burmese language signed at Martaban 15th March 1825 by G. Norman Captain which had been given to the Chief at Coracot, * but which did not protect him or any of his Townsmen from being carried away by the Siamese. The poor Chief died during his journey to Siam. Surely such conduct entitled the Siamese to little consideration and when the war had terminated, the perfect knowledge of what they really deserved could be the only cause of their fears, of which due advantage might fairly have been taken. As to the 13th Article respecting Tringano and Kalantan, Captain Burney might have understood that he was not required to moot the point of Siamese Supremacy over those States The simple disavowal of such right on our part was all that was expected, and when he found that the Court of Siam, as always anticipated, would object to the positive renunciation of such supremacy, he should have satisfied himself with the declaration and left the door open for the other course of proceeding suggested by Mr. Crawfurd in the following words: "That the British Government will not "succeed in persuading the Court of Siam to consent "by regular Treaty to the future independence of "the Malayan States, but that if it be assumed at "once by us we shall be allowed to act upon that "principle without any serious demur." Of the above Captain Burney was fully aware, and it is to be regretted that he admitted the insertion of an Article so exactly calculated to preclude the future

resort to it. It does not appear that the declaration proposed to be attached to this Article is sufficient to invalidate the obvious construction which it bears, namely an acknowledgement of the Supremacy of
Para. 237. Siam. Captain Burney's letter to the Chief of Tringano disavows all intention of removing him from under that Supremacy. That point also may be said to be at rest, and with it the question started as to the disputed succession to the Government of that state, of which however we have received no authentic information. Were those States connected with us by Treaty and under our protection, little difficulty would occur in bringing such disputes to an adjustment; as matters now stand, even tho' the Treaty were ratified, we should not be justified in interfering. It is clear therefore that things must take their course. Captain Burney, [it] appears, objects to the application of the term of failure to all this part of his proceedings. A negotiation entered into for the restoration of a kingdom to an ejected King living under our protection, terminating in an engagement on our part to dismiss him from our Territory, can surely be designated by no other term than failure. Another Negotiation undertaken for preserving or procuring the Independence of two States, and terminating in the admission of their subjection, certainly deserves no milder designation, and it surely requires little reasoning to shew that it would have better to have broken off without coming to any Treaty in either Case.

Article 14th. I have already admitted to be favorable, as it arrests the further progress of the Siamese in the direction of Malacca, and this is the only point in which Captain Burney has succeeded. Convinced of the extreme inconvenience and even danger of Siamese Contiguity, by four years experience of the result at this Presidency, and being satisfied that, unless checked, the same must at no

distant period extend itself around our other Settlements, it certainly has long been the anxious desire of this Government to oppose some barrier to its progress—and the Mission to Siam appeared to hold forth some prospect of success. I regret however to find our objects counteracted at every step by the past line of policy pursued, by some unfortunate admission of those who had gone before us, and however reluctantly, I am compelled to confess my fears that the time for interference has gone by, and the fate of the Peninsula is irretrievably decided. The reduction of the Burmese power by the late War, and their removal from the neighbourhood of the Siamese States in that Quarter has no doubt accelerated the course of Conquest in this direction. It has set at large resources hitherto confined to defence, and from the views of the Wangna and the Chief of Ligore the predominating and the War party of the Court of Siam as reported by Captain Burney, as well as information lately received, there seems little reason to doubt that extensive views of conquest are entertained, but in what direction remains to be ascertained. It would have been satisfactory to have kept the question open until the sentiments of the Authorities in England on the line of Policy to be observed had been received. The necessity however of either refusing or ratifying the Treaty and thus adopting a decisive line admits of no delay. We must be guided by our view of the good or the evil predominantly on either side. Of the two objectionable Articles of the present Treaty, one being only Provisional, the other being now apparently without remedy, I am disposed to think, after the most deliberate reconsideration of the Subject, that under present circumstances the best course will be to ratify the Treaty as the speediest and least objectionable mode of putting an end to all further negociation and discussion from which I am satisfied no possible good can result. The appointment of Political Agent to the Siamese States held by

Captain Burney before his Mission to Siam may, I presume, be considered to have merged under his functions of Envoy from the date of his proceeding on that duty. If not, the appointment will cease on the Ratification of the Treaty after which such will no longer be required.

(Signed) R. FULLERTON

5th October 1826.

1786 Conditions for the Cession of P. W. Island.

EXTRACT from the first Proceedings respecting Prince of Wales Island.

Conditions required from the British Government by the King of Queda.

Article 1st. That the Honble. Company shall be Guardian of the Seas, and whatever Enemy may come to attack the King shall be an Enemy to the Honble. Company, and the expense shall be borne by the Honble. Company.

2d. All Vessels, Junks, Prows, small or large, coming from either East or West, and bound to the Port of Queda shall not be stopped or hindered by the Honorable Compr y's Agent, but left to their own will, either to buy or Sell with us, or with the Company at Pulo Penang, as they shall think proper.

3d. The Articles, Opium, Tin and Rattans, being part of our Revenues are prohibited, and Qualla Muda, Prye and Krean, places where these Articles are produced, being so near to Penang that when the Honble. Company's Presidents remain there, this prohibition will be constantly broken through, therefore it should end, and the Governor General allow us our profits on these Articles vizt. 3000 Spanish Dollars every year.

4th. In case the Honble. Company's Agent gives credit to any of the King's Relations, Ministers, Officers, Ryots, the Agent shall make no claim on the King.

5th. Any Man in this Country without exception, be it our Son or Brother who shall become an Enemy to us, shall then become an Enemy to the Honble. Company; nor shall the Honble. Company's Agent protect them, without breach of this Treaty, which is to remain while Sun and Moon endures.

6th. If any Enemy come to attack us by Land and we require assistance from the Honble. Company of Men, Arms, or Ammunition, the Honble. Company will supply us at our expence.

Answer to the Conditions for the Cession of P. W. Island.

RESOLVED that the following replies be given to the Conditions required from this Government by the King of Queda, which are to form a letter to him.

ARTICLE 1st. This Government will always keep an Armed Vessel stationed to guard the Island of Penang and the Coast adjacent belonging to the King of Queda.

2d. All Vessels under every denomination bound to the Port of Queda shall not be interrupted by the Honble Company's Agent or any Person acting for the Company or under their authority, but left entirely to their own free will either to trade with King of Queda or with the Agents or Subjects of the Honorable Company

3d. The Governor General and Council on the part of the English East India Company will take care that the King of Queda shall not be a sufferer by an English Settlement being formed on the Island of Penang.

4th. The Agent of the Honorable Company or any person residing on the Island of Penang under the Company's protection, shall not make claims upon the King of Queda for Debts incurred by the King's

Relations, Ministers, Officers or Ryots, but the person having demand upon any of the King's Subjects shall have power to seize the Persons and property of those indebted to them, according to the custom and usages of that country.

5th. All persons residing in the Country belonging to the King of Queda, who shall become his Enemies, or commit Capital offences against the State shall not be protected by the English.

6th. This Article will be referred for the orders of the English East India Company, together with such parts of the King of Queda's requests as cannot be complied with previous to their consent being obtained.

Extract from Capt. Lights Journal in taking possession of the Island of Penang.

8th July. Went up by myself—arrived in the morning—found the Laxamana with the King. He appeared satisfied with regard to the passage in the letter. He read the translation to me, and obliged me to sign it, he then read the Letter over again and remarked that the Governor General had deferred entering into a Treaty with him until an answer should arrive from Europe, and as that was the case it was needless going to Penang and incurring an expense which might perhaps prove useless. To which I answered the greater expense was already incurred by coming there, and it would make little difference whether I remained at Queda or went to Penang. The Laxamana then desired to know if the Honorable Company would pay the King 30,000 Spanish Dollars per Annum for the Trade, and if not how much they would pay; I told him I could not take upon me to disclose what the Honble. Company would resolve, but this much I was certain of that the Honble. Company would not allow the King to be a sufferer by their settling in this Country without making him an adequate recompense. That at present and for some time to come the Honble. Company would receive no

profit from the possession of the Island, on the contrary it would be a heavy expense. He then desired to know, if in case the Honble. Company's Letter should not be agreeable to the King whether I would return to Bengal quietly, and without enmity. To this I made no answer. I was then desired to withdraw to my Boat under pretence of receiving some refreshments. After waiting some time I returned and the conversation was renewed. The King said he did not mean that he would be satisfied with no less a Sum than 30,000 Spanish Dollars, he might perhaps accept of 20 or even 10,000 but that must be in his own option.

True Extract

(Signed) R. F.

ORDERED that the following letter be addressed to the Supreme Government, and Copies of the President's Minutes, correspondence with the Envoy to Siam, and other Documents connected with his negotiations and the deputation of Captain Low to Perak, be forwarded by the Mission Brig Guardian now under despatch.

Governor General in Council, Fort Wm. 5 October 1825.

To GOVERNOR GENERAL in Council—Fort Wm.

To

THE RIGHT HONBLE.

WILLIAM PITT LORD AMHERST

Governor General in Council

FORT WILLIAM.

MY LORD,

Captain Burney having returned from Bangkok, and delivered his final report, accompanied with a Copy of the Treaty concluded and now under transmission to your Lordship in Council: We have taken the subject into our most attentive consideration. For our opinions on that document we beg leave to refer to the Minutes of our President bearing date 18th Ultimo and this day, the latter bearing principally on the explanation afforded by Captain Burney in his letter of the 3d Instant, which with the one to which it replies, also accompanies this letter. Although two of the Articles 12th and 13th appear to us of an objectionable nature, we are nevertheless of opinion that under all circumstances the most advisable course will be to ratify the Treaty, such being the speediest and least objectionable mode of putting an end to all further negotiation, from the continuance of which no possible advantage seems likely to arise. Every possible means, short of actual compulsion will be used to induce the Ex-King of Quedah to remove to Malacca, and it may be hoped with success —but as the Article bearing on that point is only provisional, it does not appear to us that it opposes any difficulty on the ratification of the Treaty. The appointment held by Captain Burney under the Government as Political Agent to the Siamese States

before he proceeded on his Mission, if not considered to have already merged under the functions of Envoy to Siam, will cease to be necessary after the Ratification of the Treaty.

We have the honor, &ca.

(Signed) R. FULLERTON

R. IBBETSON

FORT CORNWALLIS
The 5th October 1826.

THE BOARD adverting to the contiguity of the Siamese to the Provinces under the political charge of His Excellency Sir A. Campbell and considering it proper that he should be informed of the Political arrangements in progress—

RESOLVED that the following letter be addressed to His Excellency and Copies of the several documents referred to be forwarded to him.

To Major General Sir A. Campbell 5 October 1826.

To MAJOR GENERAL SIR A: CAMPBELL.

To

His Excellency Major General Sir A: Campbell

K. C. B. First Commissioner for the affairs of

the Conquered Provinces on the Coast of

TENASSERIM.

Sir,

Captain Burney late Envoy at the Court of Siam having returned here and produced Copy of the Treaty lately concluded with that State, and now under transmission to the Right Honble. the Governor in Council. The Honble. the Governor in Council, adverting to the contiguity of the Siamese to the Provinces under your political charge, has considered it right that your Excellency should be informed of the political arrangements in progress, and accordingly directs me to enclose the Copy of the Treaty, with all the Documents necessary to explain the opinions and views entertained by the Honble. the Governor in Council on that Document.

I have &ca., &ca.

(Signed) JOHN ANDERSON

Secy. to Govt.

Fort Cornwallis
The 5 October 1826.

ADDITIONAL PAPERS.

Factory Records, Straits Settlements, Vol. 138, pp. 1-20.

FORT CORNWALLIS The 1st June 1826.

AT A COUNCIL—Present

Secret and Political Department.

The Honorable ROBERT FULLERTON

Governor—President

WILLIAM ARMSTRONG CLUBLEY Esquire

and

ROBERT IBBETSON Esquire.

THE following Minute by the President, with Statement of Intelligence from Perak, and Draft of a letter to the Envoy at Siam is recorded.

MINUTE by the President

Minute by the President 2d May 1826.

In submitting the accompanying Documents of Intelligence from Perak, but little observation is required. The Board have, no doubt, full recollection of the Treaty made between Captain Burney and the Chief of Ligore, and since confirmed and ratified by the Right Honorable the Governor General. By the first Article this Government engages to remove Rajah Hussein from Perak, disavows at the same time any desire of occupying that Country or interfering in its Government; By the second, which may fairly be termed the reciprocal engagement on the part of Ligore, it is provided that no Siamese force by land or water shall proceed to Perak or settle in that Country.

The first Article on our part has been fully performed by the removal of Rajah Hussein. If then the information contained in these Papers be correct, and many circumstances tend to confirm their authenticity, it follows that the Rajah of Ligore has broken his

faith, and the only effect produced by our enforcing the first Article in the removal of Rajah Hussein has been the opening the Country to the ruinous exaction and oppression of the Siamese, acting under the orders of the Rajah of Ligore. I propose that this information be communicated to Captain Burney by the earliest opportunity, in order that he may make such remonstrance as he may deem fit. I shall prepare and submit the Draft of a letter to be sent to the Chief of Ligore to the same effect: and as it is most desirable that we should be correctly informed of the actual state of the Country, I propose dispatching an Officer to wait on the Rajah of Perak, to satisfy himself, and report in what degree the information before us is correct, relative to the state of durance in which the King is said to be held, and at the same time to warn such of the Siamese Authorities as he may find there without delay.

While the question of the Policy to be observed in respect to the Malay States remains undecided by Superior Authority, it seems desirable to avoid more direct measures, which might lead to results from whence it would not be easy to recede, in the event of the abandonment of all interference on behalf of those States being determined on. The Board are fully aware of the degree to which Piracy has of late been carried on in the neighbourhood of the Dinding Islands. From the information given at different times, there can be no doubt that shelter is constantly afforded to the plunderers in the Creeks and Rivers of the Perak Country. Some of our own subjects have indeed been carried away and sold as Slaves at Curow, and no answer has been returned to our remonstrances on that case. The state of anarchy, misrule and confusion into which that Country has been thrown by the unjustifiable aggressions of the Siamese is such,

that unless through the means of Captain Burney, some adjustment speedily takes place, the decided interference of this Government will be indispensable to the security of our Trade passing that Coast.

(Signed) R. FULLERTON.

22d. May 1826.

Enclosure No. 1 in President's Minute.

MADAR SAW, Chulia man, Trader, Inhabitant of George Town states, that he returned here from Perak a few days ago after residing in that Country some months. During his stay there, he witnessed several times the licentious and oppressive conduct of a Siamese force of about three hundred men that arrived about seven months ago under the pretext of demanding the Boonga Mas, but which has evidently been sent by the Rajah of Ligore for other political purposes. The Boongah Mas itself with usual present would no doubt have been furnished if that had been their sole motive for coming: but there is evidently other objects in view in sending this force. The Rajah of Ligore sent to the Perak Rajah to say that as the making of a suitable Boonga Mas in the Perak Country might be inconvenient, if not impracticable, the latter might send him 1500 Dollars which would be accepted in lieu, at the same time hinting that a Complimentary present of 500 Dollars more for himself would be also accepted. The weakened and divided state of the Country and poverty of the King, rendered a compliance with these terms impossible, which the Rajah of Ligore was well aware of, and only made such demands to cover his political designs, and as an excuse for keeping his Troops in the country. These men have settled themselves, built houses, taken wives, and clearly shew they intend remaining in the Country; they now say they shall not return until

the Rajah of Ligore arrives, or further orders from him are received. They plunder the Gardens and places of the inhabitants with impunity, and the King is quite unable to afford his people protection against them or rid himself of them. The Rajah of Ligore has managed by intrigues to divide the Chief men of the Country, and conferred titles and authority on two or three. One in particular named Nakoda Mahomed who has been by him created Rajah Makota, has the Government of a certain portion of the Country given him. The principal men of the Country as well as the inhabitants generally are very discontented, but afraid to attempt anything against the Siamese, as they apprehend a more powerful force would invade the the Country if any attack was made on the one now there.

The force at Perak consists partly of Siamese or Ligor Troops, and partly of Malays, and is under the Command of a Chom, whose other title or name Informant does not know.

(Signed) R. CAUNTER

Supt. of Police.

PANDA IBRAHIM, Perak Merchant and a Relation of the King of Perak, who came here with Madar Saw confirms that man's statement, and further says that the King is entirely under the surveillance of the Siamese Troops, who live close by him and watch him very narrowly. The Rajah of Ligore has effected the corruption of two of the Chiefs or head men, one of them the Orang Kaya Besar, Principal Minister of the King, the other a man named Nakoda Mahomed, to whom it is said the Rajah of Ligore has delegated the Government of the Sea Coast from the Krian to the Burnam

Rivers. The King is quite helpless and afraid to make known his situation to this Government. A few months since the Rajah of Ligore wrote the King, and made a requisition for 3000 Bhars of Tin, which he said he had engaged to supply some French ship with in repayment for Guns and other Military Stores. It is in fact the prevailing opinion that the Rajah of Ligore intends the subjugation and Military occupation of the Country which he might easily effect, as the late Wars with Kedah and Salangore have so weakened and desolated it that no resistance could be made against so powerful an Enemy as the Ligore Chief.

(Signed) R. CAUNTER
Supt. of Police.

Police Office
18th May 1826.

Enclosure No. 2 In President's Minute.

To

CAPTAIN BURNEY,

Envoy at the Court of Siam.

Sir,

I am directed by the Honorable the Governor in Council to enclose Copies of Information submitted by the Superintendent of Police relative to the transactions now going on in the State of Perak.

Various rumours of the same kind have been afloat for some time, but the Papers in qnestion are the first that bear the stamp of authenticity, and have been communicated in a form sufficiently official to admit of their being acted on. They require of themselves but little remark—if authentic the Rajah of Ligore has broken his faith, and this Government

has been made the instrument for removing Rajah Hussein only to open the way to let in upon the unfortunate Country the exactions and oppressions of the Siamese Dependents of Ligore

The Honorable the Governor in Council has no doubt that you will make to the Rajah of Ligore, or to the Court itself such remonstrance as will effect the removal of the Siamese until some permanent and definite arrangement be made. A letter will be addressed to the Rajah of Ligore on the occasion, and in the mean time a proper officer will be despatched to Perak in order to satisfy himself as to the actual state of affairs, and if necessary to warn such of the Siamese Authorities as may be found there to return.

Accompanying you will also receive Copy of letters to and from the Baginda Muda at Kedah respecting certain Presents sent by the Right Honorable the Governor General for the Rajah of Ligore for the delivering of which no further steps will be taken until a communication is received from you on the subject of this letter.

I have &c.

(Sd.) W. S. CRACRAFT

Secy. to Govt.

READ the following letter from the Son of the Chow Pya of Ligore at Kedah, in reply to that sent him respecting the letter from the Right Honorable the Governor General in Council with Presents to his Father.

Son of the Ligore Rajah at Kedah.

SON of the LIGORE RAJAH.

Translation

of a letter from the Baginda Muda, Son of the Rajah of Ligore at Kedah, to the Honble. the Governor of Pulo Penang.

(After Compliments.)

My friend sent *John Cruſut,* the Commander of the Cruiser, with a letter to me, together with one for His Highness the Chow Pya of Ligore, which I have duly received and understood the contents of. My friend mentions in his letter that the Right Honorable the Governor General of Bengal has sent a reply to the letter from the Chow Pya of Ligore, accompanied by presents, that these have been received at Pulo Penang, and my friend is desirous to know where the Chow Pya will receive these presents. The Chow Pya proceeded to the Capital with Captain Burney in the tenth month, and has not yet returned to Ligore, but when he was on the eve of departure for the Capital, he sent directions to me, that in the event of any letters arriving from the Right Honble. Lord Amherst Governer General of Bengal, or my friend, I should receive and forward them to him at the Capital. With respect to the letter from the Right Honble. Lord Amherst, Governor General of Bengal which has now arrived for the Chow Pya of Ligore, if my friend will send it to me at Kedah, I will receive it with the customary forms and forward it to the Chow Pya of Ligore at the Capital. This letter

written on Monday the 7th day of the Month.

Penang

the 20. May 1826.

A True Translation

(Signed) JOHN ANDERSON

Malay Transr. to Govt.

The letter to which the above is a reply was written in the name of the Malay Translator. The Malay word "*Bingkis*" signifying a *Gift* was made use of in my letter in alluding to the presents from the Governor General. In the reply, the Arabic word "*hadijah*" signifying a "present to a Superior" is twice used. His Highness has taken no notice of several former letters sent to him within the last three months.

(Sd.) J. A.

The following reply transmitted by the Malay Translator to Government is also recorded.

Malay Transltr. to the Son of the Rajah of Ligore.

To the SON of the RAJAH of LIGORE.

Draft

of a letter from the Malay Translator to Government to the Baginda Muda Son of the Rajah of Ligore at Kedah.

The letter which my friend addressed to the Honorable the Governor, in reply to mine written by his orders has been duly received, and the contents thereof made known to him. As the letter was written in my name by direction of the Honorable the Governor, agreeably to former custom, the reply should have been addressed to me, for it is not usual for any but Chiefs at the head of a State to address the Governor. My friend will therefore in future be pleased to make any communications through me, or the person who may hold the office of Translator.

I am again commanded to convey to my friend the following observations of the Honble. the Governor. The letter and presents which have been received from the Right Honble. the Governor General were sent on completion of the Treaty settled by Captain Burney with the view of confirming and improving the good understanding then established. That Treaty was ratified by the Governor General. According to the first Article thereof, this Government engaged to remove Rajah Hussein from Perak, and no time was lost in removing him accordingly, agreeably to the stipulations of the Treaty by which the British Government was bound. By the second Article, the the Chow Pya of Ligore engaged that no Siamese force should be sent to Perak or remain in that Country.

The Honble. the Governor having received intimation that notwithstanding the obligation imposed upon the Chow Pya of Ligore by the Second Article of the Treaty, above alluded to, some Siamese Troops

had proceeded to Perak, a letter was addressed by me to my friend by desire of the Honorable the Governor, requiring explanation; but that letter my friend has taken no notice of whatever, nor has sent any reply to. The Honble. the Governor has learnt that the party of Siamese still remain at Perak, and are interfering in the affairs of the Country. If this be the case the Treaty must be considered broken, and this Government cannot maintain relations of amity with any Chief who breaks his faith with it.

As my friend therefore has sent no reply to my letter respecting Perak, the Honble. the Governor has resolved to take measures to satisfy himself whether the information he has received be correct or otherwise and he has also determined that until this is satisfactorily ascertained, the proper time and place for delivering the letter and presents will remain to be considered.

In conclusion I request to draw my friend's attention to some expressions in his letter to the Honorable the Governor which have attracted notice. The Articles which have been forwarded by the Governor General are not *hadiya* 'presents to a Superior' but *Bingkis* 'Complimentary presents.' The expression (ber sambak maalum) 'respectfully to acquaint' should not be applied to the Honble. the Governor's communication; and as it is presumed my friend is not very conversant with the Malay language, the Honble. the Governor attributes the improper expressions to my friend's Malayan Writers. I would therefore, in the spirit of friendship, recommend my friend to prevent any such expressions being again used, by which any possible misunderstanding will be avoided and a good understanding preserved.

(Signed) JOHN ANDERSON
Malay Transr. to Govt.

Penang
The 22d May 1826.

THE SECRETARY reports that the letter to the Envoy at Siam was agreed to and dispatched, together with Copies of the above Documents (excepting the Minute) of the letter and Enclosure from the Persian Secretary to the Supreme Government, and of the Correspondence consequent on the letter from the Rajah of Salangor recorded in December and January last.

THE HONORABLE THE GOVERNOR records the following letter which he has addressed to the Chow Pya of Ligore.

To the Chow Pya of Ligor 27 May 1826.

To the CHOW PYA of LIGORE.

Draft

of a letter from the Honorable the Governor of Pulo Penang to the Chow Pya of Ligore.

Nearly 6 months have elapsed since I addressed to my friend the letter of which Enclosure No. 1 is a Duplicate, and which was duly forwarded to the Baginda Muda at Kedah with another letter, of which No. 2 is a Copy. After the full exposition in the letter above alluded to, and the lengthened correspondence which has already taken place between my friend and me, it is not my intention to dwell much at length in the present communication on the subject to which it relates. But as no reply whatever has been received, I consider it proper to dispatch a Duplicate, and to inform my friend that having lately received information that the party of Siamese still remain at Perak, I have determined to dispatch an Agent to ascertain the precise objects of their so long continuance there.

I have only once more to remind my friend of the first and Second Articles of the Treaty which he entered into with Captain Burney nearly twelve months ago, after a long discussion and deliberate consideration. The Conditions of the first Article were duly performed on my part without delay; and if it be true that a party of Siamese has proceeded to Perak and remained there, interfering in the affairs of the Country, it is very certain that my friend has not conformed to the Stipulations on his part.

It is impossible for this Government to preserve relations of amity (however desirous it may be to do so) with a Chief who breaks his faith with it, and commits a breach of the solemn obligations imposed upon him by a Treaty.

I expect a speedy reply to this letter.

(Signed) R. FULLERTON

Governor.

Penang
27. May 1826.

Factory Records, Straits Settlements, Vol. 138, pp. 3-5 (2d set of paging.)

FORT CORNWALLIS, The 29th June 1826.

THE SECRETARY reports that, Copies of the Proceedings in this Department of the 1st and 19th Instant relative to the Negotiations pending with Siam, and the infraction of the Treaty with the Rajah of Ligor by the Siamese at Kedah were transmitted to the Supreme Government with the following Letter to the Secretary in the Political Department.

To the Secretary to Supreme Government Fort William 28th June 1826.

To the SECRETARY to SUPREME GOVERNMENT.

No. 881.

To

GEORGE SWINTON Esquire

Secretary to Government

Fort William.

Sir,

I am directed by the Honorable the Governor in Council to transmit to you for the information of the Right Honorable the Governor General in Council the enclosed Extract and Copy of the Proceedings of this Government in the Political Department relative to the transactions of the Siamese Authorities at Kedah with reference to the affairs of Perak, and containing Copies of the Journal of the Envoy at Siam up to the 1st May, with Correspondence which has taken place with that Officer.

Under all the circumstances of the case, the Honorable the Governor in Council trusts that the Right Honorable the Governor General in Council will approve the Declaration which the Envoy has been recommended to make in the event of the Siamese Government refusing to abandon its views on the States of the Malay Peninsula.

I have &c. &c.

(Signed) W. S. CRACRAFT
Secy. to Govt.

Fort Cornwallis
The 28th June 1826.

ADJOURNED

FORT CORNWALLIS
The 29th June 1826.

R. FULLERTON

Factory Records, Straits Settlements, Vol. 138, pp. 74-5.

FORT CORNWALLIS, The 20th July 1826

THE HONORABLE the Governor lays before the Board the following Letter to his Address from the Malay Translator relative to the Assessment levied on the Rajah of Kedah's House.

MALAY TRANSLATOR.

Malay Translator 11th July 1826.

To

The Honorable Robert Fullerton Esquire
Governor &ca. &ca.

Honorable Sir,

I beg leave to acquaint you that the Ex-Rajah of Kedah has addressed me a Letter requesting me to inform you that on Saturday last, Mr. Rodyk, Clerk to the Committee of Assessors, called upon His Highness, and demanded payment of the Assessment Bill for the House occupied by him. The Rajah begs me to state that he considers himself as a temporary Resident here under the protection of the British Government, upon whose bounty alone he is at present dependant for the support of himself and family. He does not consider himself as a British Subject, and he would feel a certain degree of degradation in paying the Assessment Bills. He therefore entreats that you will be pleased to make Arrangements for preventing such demands being pressed upon him.

I have &ca. &ca.

(Signed) JOHN ANDERSON
Malay Transr. to Govt.

Penang
The 11th July 1826.

AGREED that the Amount be paid by Government as a Political Charge.

Factory Records, Straits Settlements, Vol. 138, pp. 75-81 (2d set of paging.)

FORT CORNWALLIS, The 20th July 1826.

THE following letter from the Malay Translator to the Address of the Son of the Chow Pya of Ligore is recorded together with the Petition and information therein referred to.

To the Son of the Rajah of Ligore 11th July 1826 with 2 Enclosures.

To the SON of the RAJAH of LIGORE.

Letter from the Malay Translator to Government to the Son of the Chow Piya of Ligore at Kedah.

I am directed by the Honorable the Governor of Pulo Penang to address my friend respecting an outrage committed by some persons under the Authority of the Rajah of Ligore, at Trang, upon a British Subject, about Two Months ago. The circumstances are briefly as follows. A Malay Man named Dole, a Nackoda and Resident at Province Wellesley, proceeding in a trading Prow to Pungah, being provided with a Pass from the Custom House, on his return he encountered bad weather, and having obtained the permission of the Pangaolo of Pulo Berbin to repair his Prow, he commenced doing so accordingly. Six days after his arrival there, several Boats, under the Command of Chom Rony came and took possession of Nackoda Dole's property, amounting in value to 398 Spanish Dollars enumerated in the accompanying List. As the Honorable. the Governor considers this to be a most unjustifiable and unprovoked Act, he has desired me to inform my friend that he expects steps will be taken for the immediate restoration of the property so unjustly seized and the punishment of the persons concerned in such an outrage. A speedy reply is expected.

(Signed) JOHN ANDERSON,
Malay Transr. to Govt.

Penang
11th July 1826.

Enclosure I.

TRANSLATION of a Petition from Nackoda Dole to the Honorable the Governor in Council.

Whereas your servant a subject of Prince of Wales Island, resident at Kivala Prye, being much distressed for the means of subsistence, prepared a Prahu and proceeded to the Westward with a few Articles of Merchandize, to barter for Black Bird's Nests, Beech de Mer, and other Articles, and your Servant took out a regular Pass at the Custom House. From Pulo Penang your Servant proceeded to Pungah, and after completing his trading business there, he went to an Island called Berberi, and requested of the Pangoolee of the place permission to repair his Prahu, which was granted. Six days after his arrival at the Island, some cruising Prahus of the Rajah of Ligore, under the command of a Chief named Chow Rony arrived there. Your Servant being interrogated by him stated that he was a Subject of Pulo Penang and shewed him the Pass from the Custom House ; but he paid no attention to this and took by force every Article belonging to your Servant, as enumerated in the Accompanying List. Your Servant therefore humbly submits his Case to your consideration and relies that you will compassionately grant him and his children such assistance as may be proper.

A True Translation)

(Signed) JOHN ANDERSON
Malay Transr. to Govt.

Penang
The 11th July 1826.

List of Articles belonging to Nackoda Dole, seized by the Siamese at Pulo Berberi, where he was repairing his Prow. The names of the Siamese concerned in the plunder are Chom Rony, and Jarajan also Hafy, Allang Julon and Gna Daway.

		Dollars.
3	Piculs of Black Bird's Nests ... Value	75
1	Shell of a Tortoise ... ... „	50
200	Gantons of Rice ... ... „	16
25	Catties Black Beech de Mer ... „	10
3	Iron Tamochs * ... ... „	7.50
1	Box ... ... „	2.25

* or "Tarnochs"

In a Box.

	Spanish Doliars ... ... „	35
1	Scarlet Jacket and Hlf. 7/ (1 Buggese Cloth 3/	10. „
	Silver Buttons 2/ 1 Pinchback Do. 1/50 2 Coffee Dishes 2/50	6. „
1	Cap /50 1 Kandi 1/75 1 Copper Vat 1/50 2 Runtakas 14/	17.75
2	Blunderbusses 12/ 1 Long Musket 12/ 2 Spears 10/	34. „
3	Spears brass hilt 6/ 3 Do. 3/ 5 Gun : Gun-powder 5/	14. „
40	Swivel Balls 1/75 60 Do Blunderbuss 1/	2.75
	Iron Articles for a Prahu Complete ...	15. „
3	Kris 67/ 2 Badeek 2/50 1 Jar 1/ 1 Book 3/	73.50
9	Mats and Pillows and 1 Piece of Cloth 14/ 3 Pieces White Cloth 6/ ...	20. „
	Plates and Cups 5/ 3 Cats. Java Tobacco and 500 Gumbir	1.75
1	Betel stand and Gold thread Cloth Cover	2.50

Amounting in the whole to Spanish Dollars 398.

(Signed) J. A.

Enclosure 2.

P. W. Island
To Wit.

THE INFORMATION and COMPLAINT of DOLE Malayman Nakoda of a trading Prahu of this Port, and Inhabitant of Prye in Wellesley Province, regarding the capture and Plunder of his Prahu at Pulo Beri Beri, an Island between Traang and Junk Ceylon, about Two Months ago, by a Squadron of Siamese Boats belonging to the Raja of Ligore commanded by a man named Chom Rong.

STATING that Deponent sailed from here to Pungah on a trading Voyage about Six Months ago. After remaining at Pungah about four Months he sailed from thence to return here with a Cargo of Sundries. On the passage meeting with bad Weather, he touched at the above mentioned Island Beri Beri, and obtaining permission, hauled his Prahu on Shore to repair, having suffered in the bad Weather. The Sixth or Seventh day after their arrival at Beri Beri a Squadron of Eight Siamese Cruisers or Armed Boats under the Command of a Man named Chow Rong came there, took possession of Deponent's Prahu and plundered all the property in her, both Cargo, Arms, Clothes, and every other Article on board, altogether of the Value of Three Hundred and ninety Dollars or thereabouts, which they carried off, but restored the Prahu and gave Deponent and his people their liberty. This occurred about Two Months ago, the exact day deponent cannot state.

These Boats belonged to Traang, are the Raja of Ligor's, and had come out on Cruise after Pirates. The reason assigned for plundering Deponent's Prahu was, because he had hauled her up to repair at that Island, in which he was not at all blamable, as he had solicited and obtained permission from the Head Man of the place to do so before he hauled her up. The people who live in this Island are Malays and the Head man who had given this permission to Deponent

being afraid of the Siamese Commander Chom Rong and probably willing to conciliate him and forward his designs on Deponent's property, said that he had desired Deponent to leave the Place, but he would not, which was entirely false. On this Charge however his property was seized by the Siamese Commander, and carried off as before stated. This all belonged to Deponent except about Fifty Dollars worth which belonged to the Crew.

Name of Dole

Acknowledged before me
the 5th day of July 1826.

(Signed) R. CAUNTER
Supt. of Police

Factory Records, Straits Settlements, Vol. 138, pp. 82-3 (2d set of paging.)

FORT CORNWALLIS, The 31st July 1826.

SON of the CHOW PYA of LIGORE.

son of the Chow Pya of Ligore.

TRANSLATION of a Letter from the Son of the Rajah of Ligore at Kedah.

(After Compliments)

The Letter which my friend sent me by the Captain of the Cruiser has duly reached me. It is stated that Nakoda Dole had complained to my friend and represented that some Siamese Prows had plundered that person's property from his Prow at Pulo Berberi, amounting to 398 Spanish Dollars. The contents of the Letter I understand, but I had not previously heard of any of the Siamese Prows plundering Nackoda Dole, however agreeably to the desire contained in my friend's letter received by the Captain of the Cruiser that the property should be restored to Nakoda Dole, I send a letter to the Chief who resides at Traang to make enquiries. If it be really the case that the Siamese at Traang have seized the property mentioned, I will cause it to be restored, but if such be not the case that the Traang people plundered the Prow, I will send a letter and inform my friend.

Written on Thursday.

Penang
25 July 1826.

(A True Translation)

(Signed) JOHN ANDERSON
Malay Tr. to Govt.

Factory Records. Straits Settlements, Vol. 138. pp. 85-8 (2d set of paging.)

FORT CORNWALLIS, The 31st August 1826.

READ the following letter from the Governor General in Council relative to the Proceedings of Mr. Anderson and Captain Burney relative to the Salengore and Ligore Rajahs.

Governor General in In Council. 27 July 1826.

GOVERNOR GENERAL in COUNCIL.

To,

The HONBLE. R. FULLERTON Esquire
Governor in Council of P. W. Island.

Honble. Sir

Secret Dept.

We have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of letters from your Board dated the 2d September and 9th November 1825, enclosing report of the proceedings of Mr. Anderson and Captain Burney in the affairs of Salengore and Perah which we consider to be very satisfactory.

2d. We beg to express our general concurrence in the sentiments of your Board, as stated in the Minute of the Honorable the Governor, and with respect to the only unsettled point alluded to, in the 3d para: of your letter of the 9th November, namely the payment of the 2000 Dollars required from the Rajah of Salengore to the Chief of Ligore, we shall be happy to learn, with the further report from Captain Burney, the sentiments of your Government as to the expediency or otherwise of your further interference to enforce payment of the Ligore Rajah's demand.

We have the honor &ca.

(Sd.) AMHERST
" COMBERMERE
" J. H. HARINGTON
" W. B. BAYLEY

Factory Records, Straits Settlements, Vol. 138, pp. 95-98. 2d set of paging.

FORT CORNWALLIS, The 31st August 1826.

THE HONORABLE the Governor lays before the Board the following letter from the Rajah of Kedah requesting an encrease to his allowance and permission to reside on the Opposite Shore; together with a reply which he has transmitted thereto.

Rajah of Kedah 2d August 1826.

RAJAH of KEDAH.

Translation of a letter from the Ex-Rajah of Kedah to the Honble. the Governor of Pulo Penang.

(After Compliments.)

I beg again to represent to my friend the particular circumstances of my situation here. My mind has been much distressed by a consideration of the oppression committed by the Siamese upon my Son, Sister and their families; who were carried away by the Siamese. The other members of my family also and followers who accompanied me here, have been found to dispose of all their little property to provide the means of subsistence. If I do not assist them occasionally, they would be liable to commit crimes, perhaps to steal or rob, because they have no means of gaining a livelihood here. I should thus get a bad name. I am very desirous to assist them; but the allowance granted me is not sufficient because they reside in Town where the expense is extremely great. I am of opinion therefore, that by removing to Kivala Prye the expense would be much lessened and my family could cultivate Paddy and their dependents procure a subsistence in some other way. I would come over two or three times a month to see my friend and and all my other friends here; my mind would thus be at ease. Such is my desire. I could reside there one or two months on trial and if I did not find it agreeable

and convenient, I could return and reside here until my friend sends me back to my own Country. I formerly did not like to reside at Kivala Prye, for fear of the Siamese coming and making a disturbance, but at present there are many of the Company's people there and the Siamese would not dare to come there. This I make known to my friend and if he approves of my intentions, I shall order a place to be got ready and will make preparations for removing for a month or two.

Dated 12 Mohurrum 1241.

(A true Translation)

(Signed) JOHN ANDERSON
Malay Translr. to Govt.

Pinang
the 22d August 1826.

To the Rajah of Kedah 28 August 1826.

To the RAJAH of KEDAH.

Draft of a letter from the Honorable the Governor to the Ex Rajah of Kedah.

I have duly received my friend's letter dated 12 : Mohurrum and in reply have to acquaint my friend that although I would not object to my friend's removing wherever he might desire, still I would anxiously deprive him from leaving his present residence until the return of Captain Burney who is daily expected from Siam, the result of whose negotiations at that Court as far as relates to my friend shall be communicated to him.

(Signed) R. FULLERTON
Governor.

The 28 : August 1826.

Home Series,
Miscellaneous,
Vol. 669.

Bangkok 19th June 1826.

To,

GEORGE SWINTON, Esquire
Secretary to Government in the
Secret and Political Department.

Sir,

Referring to the Dispatch which I had the honor to transmit to you viâ Martaban on the 31st March, I now beg to enclose the Reply which the Ministers of Siam have given to my Memorial Number 24, together with a continuation of my Journal from the 31st March to the present date.

I am happy to report to you that the conduct of this Court towards the British Mission has of late become much more friendly. The transmission of the Draft of a Treaty tended much to pacify its alarms, and the return of the Brig Guardian has convinced the most suspicious of the truth and fairness of our proceedings. But a perusal of my Journal will enable Government to judge of the patience and perseverance which are still requisite, before a regular Treaty can be concluded with this Court, and before the signing and Sealing of which instrument it is scarcely prudent to consider any object as attained.

The Right Honorable the Governor General in Council will be happy to hear, that I have succeeded in rescuing another party of upwards of 600 prisoners, which the Siamese carried away last year from the Burmese territories in our possession near Martaban; and I hope that His Lordship in Council will adjudge me to be correct in believing that I should not have been justified in relinquishing all the other purposes of my Mission, because I had failed in effecting the restoration of the Malayan Government in Queda.

It is my intention to quit this capital by the beginning of the ensuing month.

I have &ca.

(Signed) H. BURNEY Captain
Envoy to the Court of Siam.

Home Series,
Miscellaneous,
Vol. 669.

To

GEORGE SWINTON Esqr.

Secretary to the Government in the

Secret and Political Department.

Sir,

I do myself the honor to report my return to this Presidency and to enclose a Copy of the Continuation of the Journal of my Mission to Siam from the 19th of June, the period to which I transmitted to you viâ Mergui an account of my proceedings up to the 9th Instant, the date of my arrival at this Settlement.

I quitted Bangkok on the 18th July having received a second audience from both the King and Wang-na, and having, I trust, removed from the minds of the Siamese Ministers a great portion of that distrust and apprehension of Our power and intentions with which I had found them filled. No. 37 of the Appendix to my Journal herewith enclosed is a copy of the Treaty which I arranged with the Siamese Ministers and I earnestly solicit The Supreme Government will not pass their final sentiments upon this instrument until I have had an Opportunity of submitting a digested account of my Mission, with which I hope to attend at Fort William by the first opportunity.

I have &ca.

(Signed) H. BURNEY Captain
Envoy to the Court of Siam.

Prince of Wales's Island
Septr. 1826.

Printed for private circulation.

THE

BURNEY PAPERS

IV.

(February 1822 to August 1825)

Printed by order of the Vajirañāṇa National Library.

BANGKOK

1910.

NOTE.

The present part of the Burney Papers consists of miscellaneous documents relating to events prior to Capt. Burney's Mission to Siam and, properly speaking, should have formed the first part. Owing, however, to the fact that the documents embodied in the present part were received subsequently to the other matter already printed, it was found impracticable to publish the papers in strict chronological order.

Information has been received from the India Office that there are many more documents forthcoming. Hence it has been decided that the present four parts issued shall be bound together into one book forming Vol. I of the Burney Papers, the remaining papers covering the period from July, 1825, up to the end of 1827 to form Vol. II.

An index and a preface to Vol. I are in preparation and will be published shortly.

Factory Records, Straits Settlements, Vol. 183, (unpaged.)

1st. February 1822.

TO

THE HONORABLE THE COURT OF DIRECTORS FOR THE AFFAIRS OF THE UNITED COMPANY OF MERCHANTS OF ENGLAND TRADING TO THE EAST INDIES

LONDON

HONORABLE SIRS

* * * * * *

Kedah.

Para. 32. We regret to have to report to your Honble. Court, that since our last advices, the Country of Kedah has been invaded and overrun by a Siamese force, under the Command of the Rajah of Ligor, and the Malay Government completely subverted by the Rajah having been forced to fly to this Island, with some few Members of his family while the principal Chiefs and Ministers have either been put to death, or fallen into the hands of their Enemies.

33. Your Honble. Court has already been frequently advised that a feudal subjection, though extremely ill defined and capriciously enforced, has existed from time immemorial on the part of Kedah to the State of Siam, and although the Rajah has for the last ten or eleven years been particularly urgent in his applications to this and to the Supreme Government for assistance to enable him to resist the claims made upon him, it has not been considered judicious on the part of the latter Authority to interfere between the two parties.

34. We did not therefore consider ourselves authorized to interfere actively on the part of our Ally in the present instance, but made an immediate report of all the circumstances to the Most Noble the Governor General in Council. We have the honor to submit in the Packet for your Honble. Court's information a copy of our Dispatch to the Supreme Government

above alluded to, and while we await the arrival of detailed instructions for our further guidance in respect to the affairs of Kedah, we have the satisfaction to know by the receipt of a short letter from Mr. Secretary Swinton, that the *tone* of our Proceedings hitherto have met with the entire approbation of the Supreme Government.

35. The Rajah of Kedah having effected his escape to this Settlement, has been received and treated with the hospitality and kindness due to an Ally of the British Government, which had been promised to him (as far as relates to his personal safety and that of his family) on the occasion of his former references to us in the years 1811, 1814, and 1818, when he was menaced with an Invasion similar to that which has now been actually put in force against him.

36. Our President having also received some letters from the Rajah of Ligor, who is immediately subject to the Emperor of Siam, in which a demand for the delivery to him of the person of the Rajah of Kedah was expressed in terms which might bear a threatening construction, replied in consonance with the line of conduct we had adopted, firmly refusing to comply with his demand, but at the same time in a manner calculated to remove from the minds of the Siamese any impression which they might entertain of an attack on the part of the English—and under these circumstances, combined with some few Armed Prows having without permission sailed along the Opposite Coast, and some few stragglers having penetrated into the Company's Territory on the Opposite Shore, we judged it expedient to strengthen our Military Posts in that quarter, and to fit out a small force of Armed Prows, which under Command of the Honble. Company's Cruiser Nautilus, were stationed off the Entrance of the Harbour, and the Northern Coast of the Island, for the purposes of Intelligence, and if necessary of Defence.

Cons. 29 Novr. 1821.

Cons. 13 Decr. 1821.

37. In this state of affairs Mr. Crawfurd the Envoy of the Most Noble the Governor General in Council to the Siamese Court arrived here, bringing with him Instructions from the Supreme Government to afford him such information as our Records and local knowledge placed at our disposal for furthering the objects of his Mission, one part of which was to consider, and if practicable to treat with the Government of Siam on the subject of its demands on the State of Kedah.

Appendix to the Cons. 27 Decr. 1821.

Cons. 27 Decr. 1821.

38. We obeyed the instructions above adverted to, and performed a pleasing part of our public duty, in supplying Mr. Crawfurd with a large selection of important and interesting Documents from our Records, and our President recorded in Council his detailed sentiments on the subject of the relations of the British Government with Siam, and the Commerce formerly and at present carried on therewith, and also took up at length the question of the Invasion of Kedah, and dethronement of its Rajah—to these Documents which have formed the substance of our Communication to the Supreme Government, we beg to draw the especial notice of your Honorable Court and for that purpose to enclose a copy in the Packet, of our President's Minute.

Cons. 27 Decr. 1821, and Appendix thereto.

39. We do not feel it necessary to enlarge further on the subject, as it is under reference to the Supreme Authority in India, by the orders of which we shall be guided, confining ourselves to precautionary measures against involving the British Government in any dispute with Siam, which at the present juncture is much to be deprecated on account of the Embassy proceeding to that Court and the wide field for Commerce which Siam and its Dependencies affords to the Mercantile Community of British India.

* * * * * *

We have the honor to be with the greatest Respect

Honorable Sirs

Your Most Obedient

faithful humble Servants

H. E. PHILLIPS

W. E. W. Kine

FORT CORNWALLIS

The 1st February 1822.

(Extract of Letter endorsed :—)

Public

General Letter to the
Honble. the Court of
Directors, dated the
1st February 1822.

No. 1.

Read in Court 13th Septr. 1823.

Factory Records, Straits Settlements, Vol. 183.

15th Novr. 1822.

TO

THE HONORABLE THE COURT OF DIRECTORS FOR THE AFFAIRS OF THE UNITED COMPANY OF MERCHANTS OF ENGLAND TRADING TO THE EAST INDIES.

LONDON.

HONORABLE SIRS

* * * *

Kedah.

Para. 21. The affairs of the Kedah Country have since the date of our last advices, gradually approached to a state of total subjugation to the Rajah of Ligor, acting under the authority of the Government of Siam.

22. The instructions of the Most Noble the Governor General in the Council in reply to our address to His Lordship, of which we advised your Honble. Court in Dispatch of the 1st February last have been received, and appear on our Proceedings, and our attention to them has been as close as possible.

Cons. 21 Febry.

Cons. 24 Janry.
" 21 Febry.
" 7 March.
" 18 April.
" 2 May
" 16 May
" 27 June
" 25 July

23. Frequent correspondence has taken place between our President and the Ligor Chief, during the whole of which a moderate and temporizing policy has, as directed by the Supreme Government, been carefully observed on our part.

Cons. 7 March

24. A Provision having been authorized to be made for the expelled Rajah we fixed the amount thereof at 400 Dollars per month, informing that Prince of such allowance being liable to be deducted from the Arrears of the Annual Payment stipulated in the Treaty of 1801, in the event of his restoration.

25. In consideration also of the friendly disposition for many years past evinced by the Bindahara or chief Minister of the Country towards this Government, we granted to his family, who had made

Cons. 27 Decr. 1821. their escape to this Island, the small sum of 30 Dollars per month to relieve their urgent distress.

26. The Brother of the Rajah Tunku Soleyman having applied for a loan of Money, we granted his request to the extent of 1,000 Dollars, which he has
Cons. 4 April. entered into an agreement to repay on his return to his Country, and he will probably be enabled to redeem his pledge when the settlement of the disturbances shall afford room for his making terms of Submission to the Conquering Power, of which he is desirous, being possessed of considerable Property bordering on the Company's Territories.

27. To these expences we request the sanction of your Honble. Court, as they were urgently required to support the character of the Honble. Company's Government for liberality among the Natives, and have been sparingly incurred.

28. Circumstances having rendered it at one time highly expedient that we should be accurately informed of the operations of the Rajah of Ligor, and the Armed Force under his Control, and of the general objects for which we had intelligence of active pre-
Cons. 21 March parations at Kedah, our President deputed his Military Secretary Captain Burney to proceed to Kedah, merely in the character of a casual visitant, and collect information. On a second occasion also when the Rajah of Kedah addressed an urgent solicitation for the interference of the British Government in behalf of some Members of his family about to be carried away Captives, the first visit of Captain Burney having led to an opening for one of a similar nature, we deputed that Officer again to proceed to Kedah in the same manner as before.

Cons. 21 March 30 May 29. The result of the Missions and the information gained by him appear on our Proceedings in two Reports, which were forwarded for the information of the

Governor General in Council. We beg to draw to your Honble. Court's notice the zeal, ability and talents for negociation manifested by Captain Burney, and to the alacrity which on the present as well as former occasions this Officer has always displayed in the Service of Government.

30. As a remuneration for the Services performed, and the personal inconvenience and great deprivations to which he was subjected, we granted him the sum of Five hundred Spanish Dollars, which we hope your Honble. Court will see reason to approve.

31. With reference to the progressive Conquests of the Siamese, and their manifest intention to exert a more immediate Control over the States on the Malay Peninsula than was exercised by them at any former time, we have the honor to draw to the notice of your Honble. Court a letter from the Rajah of Kalantan soliciting the aid of the British Government to repel a threatened Invasion of his Country.

32. Conformably to the line of Policy dictated to us by our instructions from Bengal, our President in reply recommended submission to the Rajah, and held out no hopes whatever of his attaining the assistance solicited. As the same time we deem it our duty to submit to the Governor General in Council our sentiments on the general question as affecting the interests of the Honble. Company's Government in this quarter of their Indian Possessions.

Cons. 25 July.

33. Within the last two months the Rajah of Ligor has proceeded to the Court of Siam on a Summons from that Power, and has taken with him the Bindahara, a Son of the Rajah, and several other Captives of distinction, leaving as his Representatives at Kedah his Son and some of his Officers in Command of the Siamese Forces.

Siam.

34. We have received overland from the Court of Siam, Dispatches from Mr. Crawfurd the Envoy of the Governor General by which it does not appear that he had then been enabled to conclude any satisfactory

Cons. 15 August

arrangement with regard to the connection between this Island and the State of Kedah, further than an acknowledgement by the Siamese Government of the right of Possession to the Territories under the Government of this Presidency, which has arisen from our long and undisturbed occupancy of them.

35. As Mr. Crawfurd may however have further Communications with the Siamese Authorities in accordance with the request of this Government made to him during his stay here in January last, we await his touching at the Island on his return from Cochin China, with some anxiety.

36. The Government of this Island had been long impressed with the advantages in a Commercial and perhaps a Political point of view which might arise from an increased intercourse with the Siamese Court, and in July 1820 solicited permission of the Supreme Government to depute a Servant to Siam for the purpose of strengthening our Commercial relations with that Country. The permission of the

Cons. 3 Novr. 1820.

Supreme Government was obtained in November of that year, but our President observing the very cautious and guarded manner in which that Authority wished the matter should be entered on, and fully aware of the jealous spirit of the Siamese, considered it unadvisable to make a Public Deputation from hence; but deeming it essential at that time that intelligence should be obtained from Siam, authorized Mr. Morgan a Merchant of Singapore, who was proceeding thither on a Mercantile Adventure to make the objects in the desire of Government his chief concern.

37. To this end it was necessary that Mr. Morgan should be ensured against any loss, which might

occur to him in his Commercial Speculation, which was done though the medium of Mr. John Palmer of Calcutta, a personal friend of our President.

Cons. 7 Feby.

38. On our Proceedings noted in the margin, your Honble. Court will find a Report by Mr. Morgan of his visit to Siam, containing accounts of the Court Ministers &c. which was furnished to Mr. Crawfurd the Agent of the Governor General and has we trust been of much use to him in his Mission.

39. A claim was shortly after brought forward by Mr. Morgan to be reimbursed the loss on his Adventure, sustained by himself and his Partners, which at first appeared to us so very large as to render necessary an Enquiry which our President endeavoured to obtain through the Resident of Singapore, and on Colonel Farquhar's application to Messrs. Morgan & Co. they undertook to revise their Accounts which were again submitted, exhibiting a loss of Spanish Dollars 3,662.30, signed by their Agent Mr. Robert Scott of this Island, whose well known character for Mercantile knowledge and integrity, entirely satisfied us that they were correct.

40. Under these circumstances, we have authorized payment of the sum of Dollars 3,662.30 and also of Dollars 1,200.— to Mr. Morgan, as a remuneration for his personal services; and we request the sanction of your Honble. Court to this outlay, as incurred for general Political Charges on account of your Indian Government.

* * * * * *

We have the honor to be, with the greatest Respect,
HONORABLE SIRS
Your most obedient
faithful humble Servants
H. E. PHLLIPS
J. MACALISTER
W. A. CLUBLEY

FORT CORNWALLIS
The 15th November 1822.

(Extract of letter endorsed :—)

Fort Cornwallis
15th Novr. 22.

General Letter to the Honble.
the Court of Directors dated
the 15th November 1822.

No. 1.

Read in Court
23 April 1823

Recd. Per Prince Regent (P. T.)
19 April 1823.

Factory Records, Straits Settlements, Vol. 183

31st March 1823.

TO

THE HONORABLE THE COURT OF DIRECTORS FOR THE AFFAIRS OF THE UNITED COMPANY OF MERCHANTS OF ENGLAND TRADING TO THE EAST INDIES.

LONDON.

HONORABLE SIRS,

* * * * * *

Siam.

15. At the date of our last Dispatch, we were in daily expectation of the arrival of Mr. Crawfurd, the Agent to the Most Noble the Governor General on his return from his Embassy. This occurred in December last, and we received from that Gentleman an Account of the Proceedings which, in compliance with our solicitation he held with the Ministers of the Siamese Government on the affairs of Kedah, and the connection of this Island therewith; but it does not appear that he was enabled to effect more than a recognition of the prescriptive right, which long and undisturbed Possession has conferred on the British Government to the Dominion of the Territory subordinate to this Presidency.

Cons. 28 Novemr. and 12 Decemr. 1822.

16. A Complaint having been submitted to us by Mr. Storm, the Supra Cargo of the Brig Phoenix of ill usage sustained by him from the Siamese Government, whilst on a Trading Voyage to the Port of Siam, we referred him to the Governor General in Council as the proper Authority to take Cognizance of matters of a Political nature.

17. Our President since received a letter from the Pra Kalang or Minister of Commerce at the Port of Siam (in reply to one transmitted to that Personage through Mr. Crawfurd) detailing the sentiments with which the Court had been impressed by the Embassy, and the enquiries made into the nature of the Country, and its resources, and also relating the

Cons. 20 Feby, 1823.

circumstances of Mr. Storm's Complaint, with other information. To this letter our President returned a reply in general and guarded terms, expressive of the good intentions of the British Government towards Siam, and recommending a reference to Bengal in case of British Subjects giving offence there. Copies of this Correspondence were transmitted for the information of the Supreme Government.

Kedah.

18. The Rajah of Kedah, on finding the result of Mr. Crawfurd's Embassy had not opened a way for his restoration to his Throne and Country, applied to our President for permission to quit Prince of Wales Island; but previous to his so doing we considered it advisable to address the Most Noble the Governor General in Council on the subject, pointing out to that Authority the results which seemed to us most likely to follow the departure of the dethroned Prince from hence, and soliciting more specific instructions for our guidance, as to the Connection to be kept up with him in the event of his restoration, or with the Power which might succeed to the rule of the Country, in case of his entire defeat and destruction—and lastly, in case the Rajah should apply to the Netherland Government for the aid refused him by the British, and thus give rise to an extension of Dutch influence in our immediate vicinity. Our reference to the Supreme Government is recorded on our Proceedings noted in the Margin; and as your Honble. Court has repeatedly instructed us to look to Bengal as the source from whence we shall receive your Instructions on Political affairs, the subject does not appear to demand any further observation from us.

Cons. 9 Janry. 1823.

* * * * * *

We have the honor to be with the greatest Respect
HONORABLE SIRS
Your Most Obedient
faithful humble Servants
H. E. PHILLIPS
W. A. CLUBLEY

FORT CORNWALLIS
The 31st March 1823.

(Extract of letter endorsed :—)

FORT CORNWALLIS
31st March 1823.

General Letter to the Honble.
the Court of Directors, dated
the 31 March 1823.

(Enclosures)

No. 1.

Read in Court 3rd Septr. 1823.

Recd. Per Daphne
30th August 1823.

Factory Records, Straits Settlements, Vol. 183.

18 Sept. 1823.

TO

THE HONORABLE THE COURT OF DIRECTORS FOR THE AFFAIRS OF THE UNITED COMPANY OF MERCHANTS OF ENGLAND TRADING TO THE EAST INDIES

LONDON.

HONORABLE SIRS

* * * * * *

Kedah.

Para. 16. We have received a reply from the Supreme Government to our representations and views of the probable results likely to follow the departure from hence of His Majesty of Kedah, already alluded to in our last Dispatch to your Honorable Court, under date the 31st March last.

Cons. 3 April 1823.

17. In consequence of this reply approving entirely of the conduct we had pursued, and recommending a steady continuance of the same tone towards the Rajah of Kedah, in dissuading him from indulging his wish to depart hence, we addressed a letter to the Rajah stating that the Governor General had no desire to impose any restraint on his inclinations, but that he could not discover the slightest chance of any Credit or advantage accruing to him, or to the Kingdom of Kedah from his leaving Penang; on the contrary so convinced was the Governor General that any attempts to recover his Dominions by a recourse to Arms would prove, in its consequences, perilous to himself and extremely injurious to the interests of the British Government, that should he still persist in his inclination to leave this Island, neither he nor any of his family would be again allowed to return, the protection of the East India Company would be withdrawn, the provision which he now received instantly discontinued, never to be restored, and no armed followers would be permitted to accompany him, nor any

Warlike Stores be allowed to be shipped on his Vessel: for the principles of strict neutrality which this Government had hitherto observed between him and the King of Siam, would never suffer us to allow him to convert the protection he had received into the means of acting offensively against a State with which we were on terms of friendship.

18. But that if he would abandon the hazardous enterprize he now so imprudently meditated, and would determine to await the result of his representations to Siam, supported as they have been by the Supreme Government's Agent, he might be assured of every endeavour to promote his ease and comfort while remaining here, and of our President's readiness to avail himself of any favorable opportunity to further his reconciliation with the Siamese Court.

19. Having stated thus decisively the views and wishes of the Supreme Government, and the extent of our meditated interference, our President concluded in a milder tone to recommend the perusal of his several letters to him dated the 13th December 1822 and 7th March last, to weigh well the advice which they contained, and again urged him in the name of the Governor General to abide by the friendly Counsel which had been so repeatedly proffered to him.

Cons. 29 May 1822.

20. We regret to perceive in his reply but little diminution of that wish to depart which is expressed in all his former letters on this subject; but we nevertheless do not expect the execution of these views, as the loss of our support and protection would be followed by immediate penury to himself and family.

Cons. 3 April 1823.

21. With reference to the authority of the Supreme Government, conveyed in Mr. Secretary Swinton's letter of the 21st February, to continue if we thought proper such part, or even the whole of

the Annual Compensation to the Rajah for the Occupation of this Island, should we think the inducement likely to prevent the prosecution of his design to leave Penang, we thought proper on a representation from himself of the insufficiency of the Stipend at present paid him, to augment his previous Stipend from 400 to 500 Dollars monthly, on which His Highness is quietly residing here, and probably will continue so to do without attempting to recover his Dominions unless urged and supported by the neighbouring Malayan States, who are much, and very justly, dissatisfied with the subjugation of Kedah.

Cons. 10 July 1823.

Cons. 10 July 1823.

22. On our Proceedings noted in the margin, your Honorable Court will observe some Documents from the Superintendant of Police, and a Minute by Mr. Clubley regarding the detention and subsequent Act of Piracy and Murder supposed to have been committed under the cognizance, if not the orders of the Siamese Authorities at Kedah, on a Boat and Subjects belonging to this Presidency.

23. Prior to the report of the last occurrence, the Honble. Company's Brig Jessy had been dispatched to Kedah, with instructions to her Commander to enquire into the Circumstances of the detention of the Prow and property of Libby Ghanny, in consequence of which interference the Boat and Property were released and about returning to Penang as described in the Deposition of Bappoo, one of the surviving Crew, when the Massacre took place.

Cons. 10 July 1823.

24. On receipt of the intelligence of the Piracy and Murder, the Brig Jessy was again dispatched with a letter from the Malay Translator to the Ruling Authorities at Kedah, demanding the institution of an Enquiry into the transaction, and a full and written explanation in reply: the Brig has not yet returned; but in the interim it is

our intention to submit by the earliest opportunity a Statement of the subject for the information of the Supreme Government, with the view of obtaining His Lordship's instructions on the Political line of Conduct to be observed on the occasion.

* * * * * * *

We have the honor to be with the greatest Respect

HONORABLE SIRS,

Your most obedient

faithful humble Servants

H. E. PHILLIPS
W. A. CLUBLEY

FORT CORNWALLIS
The 18: September 1823.

(Extract of letter endorsed:—

Prince of Wales Island
18 Septr. 1823.

General Letter to the
Honorable the Court of
Directors, dated the 18:
September 1823.

No, 1.

Read in Court
April 28: 1824.

Recd. Per Alfred
the 27 April 1824.

Factory Records, Straits Settlements, Vol. 182.

31st July 1824.

TO

THE HONORABLE THE COURT OF DIRECTORS FOR THE AFFAIRS OF THE UNITED COMPANY OF MERCHANTS OF ENGLAND TRADING TO THE EAST INDIES

LONDON.

HONORABLE SIRS,

* * * * * *

Siam and Ligore.

Para. 23. In our Letter dated the 11th December last, we had the honor to submit to your Honble. Court, our views and sentiments at much length, on the question of our political relations with the petty State of Kedah, since it had become by Capture an integral portion of the Government of Siam. At that period, and for a long time subsequent, we were harrassed by the reiterated rumours of hostile preparations in the Ports to the Northward of Kedah, and especially at Trang, to which although we actually attached no credit, yet to quiet public alarms, which had been excessively great, we took all needful measures for ascertaining the accuracy of the rumours which were propagated. And at the same time your Honble. Court will have observed, that we did all that was in our power to obtain reparation for the outrages on British Subjects and Property which were reported to us as having been permitted by the Siamese Authorities at Kedah. We also reported the circumstances to the Supreme Government.

Cons. 28 Decemr. 1823.

Cons. 15 April 1824.

24. The correspondence with the Rajah of Ligore, which subsequently took place, will exhibit to your Honble. Court that our remonstrances were fully effectual, as they resulted in enquiries into the facts alleged and the punishment of those who had wantonly transgressed, and an end has been

thereby effectually put to all rumours and apprehensions for the future on the score of supposed attempts to molest the Rajah of Kedah in his secure Asylum under our Flag.

Cons. 15 April 1824.

25. The Governor General in Council has expressed to us also in a Dispatch dated 27 January last, the entire acquiescence of the Supreme Government in the system of policy which in our President's view of the existing state of Affairs, had been uniformly acted upon. The same Dispatch also announced to us, the probability of hostile operations against the Government of Ava, founded on aggressions committed by that State on the Eastern frontiers of Bengal.

26. It appears however that in the interim of these pending communications with the Supreme Government, and with the Rajah of Ligore, the King of Kedah had himself, from hence, addressed the Court of Ava, unknown to us, in terms of submission, and of application for aid, to which very favorable replies were received by him, as will appear from the Consultations noted in the margin, and subsequently Envoys were dispatched by that Court from Tavoy, with letters to the Rajah of Kedah, and to our President, which left no room for doubt as to the extreme interest which the Court of Ava had taken in the affairs of Kedah, and of the desire which through the medium of that Policy, they contemplated an effectual interference in the quarrel between Ligore and Kedah.

Cons. 15 April 1824.

27. The Envoys from Ava were received and treated here with distinction, for it was our interest to take advantage of their presence to cultivate more social relations with that State, and to encourage an intercourse in the hope that friendly communications and Commerce might become more general, and an opening might thereby be afforded of ascertaining more minutely the state and condition, as well as

the resources and trade of the Burman Countries in our neighbourhood.

28. In the midst, however, of these hopes and expectations, the Declaration of War by the Supreme Government against the Court of Ava actually reached us, and put a stop to all further negociations ; and the Envoys were immediately sent back to Tavoy with safety, and in a way which has impressed on their minds our National Superiority, as indeed they evinced in terms of thankfulness and also of surprise, which they had not the power to conceal.

29. While all these negociations were in progress, our President, ever desirous to interpose the mediation of the British Government in favor of our ancient Ally the Rajah of Kedah, in the view to re-establish him in his Government, communicated through a letter to the Rajah of Ligore, the possible contingency of active interference on the part of the Burman Government to befriend the Rajah of Kedah, and especially advised him to take some measures on his own part to effect that object, which it was expected could be of no difficult attainment through our mediation.

30. The terms were specifically mentioned to the Rajah of Ligore, in which such an arrangement could be conveniently effected, to the mutual advantage of the Siamese Government, of the Rajah of Kedah himself, and of the British interests. The correspondence which took place, as well as the several conferences held by our President with the Envoys whom the Rajah of Ligore dispatched here on that occasion, will be observed on our Records noted in the margin. The Envoys also had conferences with the Rajah of Kedah himself—and all appeared to be advancing to a prosperous issue, and only required the confirmation of the Rajah of Ligore, who

Cons. 15 April 1824.

it appears had not given to his Envoys sufficient power to conclude the business, for the obtaining of which they returned to their Master—and the matter has since that period remained at rest.

Cons. 29 April 1824.

31. On the announcement, however, of actual War between the British and Burman Governments, and with the instructions we received from the Supreme Government, to endeavour to interest the Siamese in the prosecution of the same, which their inveterate animosity against the Burmans, offered a good opportunity for attempting, we considered it our duty to dispatch on a special Mission to the Rajah of Ligore, Lieutenant James Low of your Madras Establishment, who was on duty at this Presidency, whose peculiar qualifications for such a trust were derived from our knowledge of his general prudence and good character, as well as from his intimate acquaintance with the Siamese language, which he alone of all your servants had made a Study —with a view to engage the Rajah to take some active measure on his part against the Burmans by Sea and Land—as well as to engage Boats to proceed direct from Trang to the Rangoon River, to co-operate with the British forces there. We at the same time entrusted to Lieutenant Low the duty of watching over the interests of the King of Kedah, and of using his direct interest and influence on the spot, in support of the plans which we had in view for his benefit.

Cons. 29 April 1824.

32. We beg leave to refer your Honble. Court to the instructions we furnished for the guidance of Lieutenant Low, who proceeded on his Mission on the 6 May last, and from whom we may reasonably expect much valuable information, derived from his observance of the manners and customs of the extraordinary people with whom he will have to deal. We have received advices from this Officer of his being at Trang, where he was well received; but the cautious

jealousy of the Siamese Authorities has prevented his proceeding into the interior, and his object therefore of visiting Ligore has been defeated. The Rajah has expressed his intention of crossing over the Peninsula from Ligore to Trang, for the purpose of meeting our Agent, and was expected to arrive there on the 15th of last month, but as the season of active operations to favor the plans of the Supreme Government against the interior of Ava by means of Boats to be dispatched to the Rangoon River, has passed away, owing to the dilatory proceedings of the Ligor Rajah; we have considered it advisable to desire Lieutenant Low to return here as soon as he can have effected all his other arrangements, and have had such conferences with the Rajah, as may if possible induce him, on his own account, to act against the Burman Government in a hostile manner.

33. It has been a source of the highest gratification to us to receive by a Dispatch from the Supreme Government dated the 11th June 1824 the expression of the entire approval of all our proceedings above related, and it shall be our study to continue to the utmost of our power every arrangement which may be available with the resources of our Government to facilitate the objects of the Supreme Government against the State of Ava—as well as to afford the means of a favorable termination of the question connected with the restoration of our ancient Ally to his Government of Kedah.

* * * * * *

Map of Siam &c.

41. In a former part of this Letter, we adverted to the Mission of Lieutenant Low of your Madras Establishment to Ligore, and of the progress which he had made in obtaining a knowledge of the Siamese language. We now perform a very pleasing act of public duty in drawing your attention to a letter

which that Officer has addressed to our Secretary illustrative of a Map on an extensive Scale, which by indefatigable labour and exertion he has prepared of Siam, Camboja and Laos—which Countries hitherto have been totally unknown to the public, and have been exhibited as Blanks in every Chart hitherto published.

42. This Map and the letter which accompanied it, are only the fore-runners however of the yet more extensive and valuable information which Lieutenant Low has been long preparing, concerning the History, Religion, and Literature of Siam—and which he has promised to lay before us.

Cons. 15 April 1824.

43. In transmitting therefore in the Packet, the above mentioned Map and a Copy of Lieutenant Low's letter on the subject, we deem it our duty to accompany them with Copies of the Minutes which we recorded in Council thereon. Your Honble. Court will doubtless be gratified at observing the honorable testimony borne by our President to the active genius and scientific researches of this valuable young Officer; and estimating as we did the complete devotion of his time and labour to the study of a most difficult language, and the success which has attended his exertions, We readily and cheerfully gave our sanction to our President's proposed Donation of 2,000 Spanish Dollars to Lieutenant Low, as a just recompense for his gratuitous Services, and as an incentive to others of your Servants to prosecute with diligence the same studies.

Pension to the Family of the late Laxamana of Kedah.

44. With reference to the destitute condition in which the refugees from Kedah arrived here, and to the assistance we have afforded to the Rajah of Kedah, and to the family of the Bindahara of that Country, who on the murder of that Chieftain by the Siamese sought Asylum and received a subsistence from this

Government; we have been induced from the same principles of hospitality and of the equal Claim of the Family of the late Laxamana of Kedah, who was also a victim to the cruelty of the Siamese, and who in his life time has exhibited the strongest partiality to the British Government, to comply with an application which we received from the Family of that unfortunate Man to relieve their extreme distress, by granting a Pension for their support of 30 Dollars per month.

Cons. 27 May 1824.

45. The whole amount of Subsistence thus afforded to the Rajah of Kedah and to the Families of his two Chief Ministers will fall short of the Amount which was heretofore granted to that Rajah, as the price of our possession of Prince of Wales Island; and being in consonance with the tenor of a permission from the Supreme Government, will, we trust, be admitted by your Honorable Court, as afforded by us on the strong ground of Hospitality, and entitled to your concurrence and approval.

* * * * * *

We have the honor to be with the greatest Respect

HONORABLE SIRS

Your Most Obedient

faithful humble Servants

H. E. PHILLIPS

J. MACALISTER

W. A. CLUBLEY

FORT CORNWALLIS

The 31st July 1824.

(Extract of Letter endorsed :—)

General Letter to the
Honorable Court of
Directors, dated 31st
July 1824.

No. 1.

Read in Ct. 16th March 1825

Recd. Per Hindostan
11th March 1825.

Factory Records, Straits Settlements Vol. 183.

JOSEPH DART Esquire
Secretary to the Honorable Court of
Directors of the East India Company
LONDON

SIR,

I am directed by the Honorable the Governor in Council to transmit to you for the purpose of being laid before the Honorable Court of Directors, the enclosed Memorial from Captain Burney, together with Copies of the Minutes recorded on the subject by Mr. Phillips, our President and Mr. Macalister. A Copy of the General Order issued on the occasion of according a Furlough to Captain Burney is also transmitted for the Honorable Court's information.

I have the honor to be
Sir,
Your most Obedient
humble Servant
H. M. WILLIAMS
Offg. Secry. to Govt.

FORT CORNWALLIS
The 2d. October 1824.

(Endorsed :—)

Fort Cornwallis
2d. October 1824

Letter from Mr. Secretary
Williams to Mr. Secretary
Dart.

(2 Enclosures)

Read in Court, 25th May 1825

Recd. Per Resource
21 May 1825.

Factory Records, Straits Settlements, Vol. 183.

TO

THE HONORABLE THE COURT OF DIRECTORS FOR THE AFFAIRS OF THE UNITED COMPANY OF MERCHANTS OF ENGLAND TRADING TO THE EAST INDIES.

LONDON.

HONORABLE SIRS

* * * * * *

Negociations with the Siamese.

Para. 17. In the 31st and following paragraphs of our Letter of the 31st July last, we informed your Honble. Court of the Mission of Lieutenant Low to the Rajah of Ligor, with a view to induce the co-operation of the Siamese in the War against Ava, and also in order to gain the restoration of the Rajah of Kedah to his Power under an amicable adjustment.

18. The suspicious Policy which prevented the Rajah of Ligor from admitting Lieutenant Low to a personal Conference and led to an entire failure of the objects of his Mission was at the same time reported to your Honble. Court.

Appendices Nos. 1 & 3 to the Consultations of the 26 August & 14 Septr.

19. On Lieutenant Low's return he laid before us a Report and Journal of his Proceedings; and we have reason to state that notwithstanding the want of success above referred to, much zeal, ability and intelligence were displayed by that Officer while acting under the instructions furnished for his guidance.

Lieut. Colonel Snow's Mission

Cons. 2 Septemr.

20. Early in the month of September, we received by Lieutenant Colonel Snow the Deputy Adjutant General to the Madras Division of the Forces, a letter from the Commander in Chief Sir Archd. Campbell recommending the Mission of the former Officer to make arrangements for the co-operation of the Siamese Forces generally in the War, and more particularly with reference to the attack meditated against the Ports of Tavoy and Mergui.

21. On reference to the instructions we had received from the Governor General in Council, we considered that a Mission direct to the Court of Siam could be resorted to only under the express sanction of that Authority; and the unfavorable reception of Lieutenant Low gave us no ground to expect that any Mission from this Government would receive that consideration and respect necessary to give it success.

22. We were therefore obliged to confine ourselves to furnishing Lieut. Colonel Snow with letters addressed by our President to the Siamese Chiefs of Ligor, Phunga and Dinding and to the Pra Klang or Prime Minister at the Court of Siam, to be made use of as Circumstances of success in the march of the Troops and of vicinity with the Dependencies of Siam, on the borders should indicate.

Cons. 14 September.

23. We were not of opinion that the actual junction of a Siamese Army with the British Forces, even if attainable, would be of advantage. The supply of Elephants, Draught Cattle and Boats, and the transmission of Provisions for Sale to the Ports and places which were already, or which might eventually fall into our Possession, was all that appeared to us necessary to request from the Siamese Chiefs, and our instructions to Lieutenant Colonel Snow were framed on this view of the case.

Cons. 14th & 23d September.

24. Lieutenant Low's experience and knowledge of the Siamese language pointing him out as likely to be of considerable use to Lieutenant Colonel Snow in his conferences with the Siamese Authorities, we appointed him an Assistant to that Officer on an allowance of 500 Spanish Dollars per month for the period he might be employed on the Service.

Cons. 14th & 23d September.

25. The Minutes recorded in Council on the deputation of Lieutenant Colonel Snow and the letters we addressed to the Supreme Government are recorded.

on our Proceedings noted in the Margin, to which we request your Honble. Court's attention.

26. The Expences incurred on account of these Missions will of course be placed to the debit of the Supreme Government, as rendered necessary by the Burman War, and we have furnished from our Treasury the necessary Advances of Cash, and provided all the Supplies required, of which due notice has been given to the Governor General in Council.

Cons. 14 & 23 Septr.

Kedah.

27. The object of making arrangements with the Siamese Government relative to the affairs of the Kedah Country, and the appropriation to that purpose of any of the Ports or places in Tenasserim, which might fall into our hands did not escape our deliberate attention at the time Lieut. Colonel Snow proceeded to Mergui; but we were unwilling to give premature instructions on a subject of such great importance, and which might be more properly considered to rest entirely and immediately with the Governor General in Council.

28. We lost no time in submitting to that Authority our view of the Policy proper to be observed at the present juncture and your Honble. Court will by a reference to a Memorandum of the points to which we requested attention, be in full possession of the sentiments which in our opinion should actuate all Proceedings adopted to rescue Kedah, and eventually the whole of the Malay Peninsula from the tyrannic grasp of Siam, with which all its States are now more seriously threatened than at at any former period.

Cons. 21 October.

29. While on this subject we request your Honble. Court's notice to a very interesting and comprehensive Pamphlet, compiled partly from the Records of Government, and partly from sources of private information by Mr. John Anderson the Malay Translator to Government, who laid it before us in September last. The observations and remarks of

Appendix No. 2 to the Cons. of 14 Septr.

Mr. Anderson appear to us so entirely in unison with the Principles of Policy which ought to be upheld by the British Authorities in this Division of the Eastern Empire; and the facts he has collected and detailed afford such clear evidence of what have been, are and ought to be the relations between the Malay States, the Government of Siam and the British Possessions, that we consider it a duty to recommend the Pamphlet to your Honble. Court's attention, and to express our satisfaction at the zeal and ability displayed by Mr. Anderson on a question of such great public importance.

* * * * * *

We have the honor to be with the greatest respect
HONORABLE SIRS
Your most obedient
faithful humble Servants
R. FULLERTON
W. A. CLUBLEY

FORT CORNWALLIS
The 2nd December 1824.

(Extract of letter endorsed : —)

Fort Cornwallis
2nd Decr. 1824.

General Letter to the Honble.
the Court of Directors dated
the 2d December 1824.

No. 2.

(Genl. Dépt.)

Read in Court, 20th July '25.

Recd. Per Rose 20th July 1825.

Factory Records, Straits Settlements, Vol. 183,

TO

JOSEPH DART Esquire
Secretary to the Honble. the Court
of Directors of the East India Company
LONDON.

SIR,

With reference to the 29 Paragraph of this Government's General letter of the 2d. Instant, referring to a Pamphlet compiled by Mr. Anderson the Malay Translator of which 25 Copies are transmitted for the information of the Honorable Court of Directors, I am further directed to request that you will lay before the Honorable Court the accompanying Copy of a Minute recorded by the President, explaining the terms on which the Document has been printed, and to submit [to] the favorable recommendation of this Government that the Honble. Court will grant to Mr. Anderson such remuneration as may seem fit with reference to the time and labour occupied in the Compilation.

I have the honor to be
SIR
Your most obedient
Humble Servant
W. S. CRACRAFT
Actg. Secy. to Govt.

FORT CORNWALLIS
The 11th December 1824.

(Endorsed :—) Fort Cornwallis

11th Decr. 1824

Letter from Mr. Secy.
Cracraft to Mr. Secy.
Dart with 1 Enclosure.

Read in Court 20th July '25

Recd. per Rose 20th July 1825,

Factory Records, Straits Settlements, Vol. 183.

MINUTE by the PRESIDENT

Mr. J. ANDERSON the Malay Translator under this Government submitted to me some time ago a Manuscript Paper drawn up by him on a variety of Subjects affecting the Commercial Interests of this Island, as well as our Political Relations with Siam and the Malayan States, compiled partly from the Records of Government, and partly from those sources of private information, to which his official pursuits had afforded him access. Considering that this paper contained a concentration of Information highly useful to all Public Authorities employed in the administration of the Affairs of this Presidency, and which could only be otherwise come at by a long and careful examination of a Voluminous Mass of Record, I authorized that Gentleman to superintend the printing of the same on the part of Government,—it being distinctly understood that the Number of Copies was not to exceed that required for the above purpose and all such were to be the property of Government and not circulated or otherwise published without the consent of the Honorable Court of Directors. Mr, Anderson having now delivered 100 Copies I propose that they be distributed as follows.

The Honorable Court of Directors - - 50
Supreme Govermt. - - 10
For Appendices to the Proceedings - 4
For the use of the Members of this Government - - - - 3
The rest to be deposited in the Secretary's Office and be made use of according to the directions of Govermt. from time to time - - - - - - - - 33

100

Of the Political views and opinions of the Writer it is quite unnecessary for us to enter into any discussion, nor would such be proper on the present occasion, because the general sentiments entertained by us as to the future course of Policy to be observed, whether in respect to the King of Kedah or the other Malay States in the Peninsula, must, as circumstances require become the subject of reference for the consideration of the Right Honorable the Governor General whose directions will form the rule

of actions to be implicitly followed by us ; but as it has ever been the liberal Policy of the Honorable Court of Directors to encourage amongst their Servants a spirit of research, and the pursuit after useful Information by rewarding those who have devoted their leisure hours to that purpose ; I propose that the transmission of the Copies intended for the Honorable Court be accompanied by a favorable recommendation of this Government, and that they be solicited to bestow on that Gentleman such remuneration as they may in their judgement see fit ; with reference to the time and labor occupied in the Compilation.

(Signed) R. FULLERTON
10th December 1824

(A True Copy)
W. S CRACRAFT
Actg. Secry. to Govt,

(Endorsed :—)

Enclosure in Mr. Secretary Cracraft's Letter to Mr. Secry. Dart dated 11th Decr. 1824.

Recd. Per Rose
20th July 1825.

Fa ctory Records, Straits Settlements, Vol. 183

TO

THE HONORABLE THE COURT OF DIRECTORS FOR THE AFFAIRS OF THE UNITED COMPANY OF MERCHANTS OF ENGLAND TRADING TO THE EAST INDIES.

LONDON.

HONOURABLE SIRS,

* * * * * *

Para. 8. We hope your Honble. Court will, on a reconsideration of the peculiar circumstances in which this Government was placed on the invasion of the Kedah Territories by a Siamese Force, be of opinion that the Mission of Captain Burney for the purpose of obtaining information and quieting the alarm, which at that period existed amongst our Native Population, was required; without it, no specific reference on the subject could well have been made to Bengal as we could only have communicated vague rumours and reports under ignorance of the actual state of affairs in Kedah and we could not have furnished the Supreme Government with any correct data on which to ground its instructions to us.

* * * * * *

Siam, Ligore and Quedah.

67. It has been the duty of this Government to make frequent references to your Honble. Court during the few last years, upon the subject of our negociations with Siam and Ligore, consequent upon the subjugation of the Malayan State of Quedah. It has been our unceasing and anxious desire to observe towards the Siamese, the most cautious and conciliatory policy, but recent circumstances have occurred, which have compelled us to remonstrate against the proceedings of the Rajah of Ligore.

68. We have to request your Honble. Court's advertence to the paras. from 23 to 36 in the General Letter from this Government under date the 31st July

* See ante for paras. 23-33. Paras. 34-36 refer only to Rangoon.

1824, * and we regret to acquaint your Honble. Court that the anticipations then so confidently expressed, have not been realized,

69. It will be in the recollection of your Honble. Court, that the late Governor sometime prior to the arrival of our President, endeavoured to open negociations with the Rajah of Ligore for the restoration of the King of Quedah, which Mr. Phillips was induced to do, from the plausible professions of the Envoys from His Highness, and Lieut. Low of the Madras Establishment was deputed for the purpose of adjusting the preliminaries and inducing the Rajah of Ligore to co-operate against the Burmans as desired by the Right Honble. the Governor General in Council.

70. Your Honble. Court has already been informed in our letter of the 2nd Decr. last of the unsuccessful result of Lieut. Low's mission and of his failure even to obtain an interview with the Rajah of Ligore. The letters addressed by the late Governor sometime prior to Lieut. Low's deputation containing the proposals for a treaty relative to the restoration of the King of Quedah, have remained unanswered.

71. It seems that prior to Lieut. Low's mission, various rumours prevailed at this Settlement, respecting the equipment of a large fleet of prows by the Rajah of Ligore at Trang, Setool, Lingow, Purlis and the other northern ports of Quedah. The results of some hasty enquiries instituted induced the late Governor to attach no credit to these reports and it is stated in the Letter to your Honble. Court that "an "end has been put to all rumors and apprehensions "for the future on the score of supposed attempts to "molest the Rajah of Quedah in his secure asylum "under our flag."

72. Recent events however have proved that the reported equipments in the latter part of 1823 were not unfounded and the construction of a very large fleet of prows has continued in rapid progress ever since. It is assuredly a source of regret that more correct information was not obtained at the time and it is very evident that the reports of some of the officers who were sent to ascertain the numbers of vessels building &ca. were very inaccurate.

73. Our last communications to your Honble. Court on this subject are contained in our General Letter dated 2d. December last, paras. from 17 to 29. We there adverted to the intended deputation of of Lieutenant Colonel Snow on a Mission to Siam with Lieut. Snow as his Assistant.

74. Shortly after the date of our Letter to your Honble. Court above alluded to, we received a reply from the Supreme Government to our Dispatches of the 19th Octr. relative to Colonel Snow's mission and the line of policy deemed expedient to be pursued under the then existing state of affairs. The circumstances which prevented Lieutenant Colonel Snow's proceeding on the proposed mission after his return to Tavoy are fully explained in the dispatch to this Government from Brigadier-General Campbell and in the letter from that officer to which we refer your Honble. Court.

Cons. 9th Decr.
Cons. 4th Jany.

Cons. 4th Jany.

75. On our Proceedings noted in the margin your Honble. Court will observe a Letter from the Secretary to Government in the Political Department transmitting copy of a Minute by the Right Honble. the Governor General on the Map of the Burman Empire constructed by Captain Burney of the 25th Regt. Bengal N. I. noticing the abilities of that officer in the diplomatic branch of the service and recommending his employment should occasion require

negociation with the Siamese Chiefs in the vicinity of this Island.

76. Having reason ourselves to entertain a favorable opinion of the talents and industry of Captain Burney we readily availed ourselves of the services of that officer on his return from Bengal and under the instructions which we had received from the Supreme Government nominated him Political Agent with the Siamese States: Upon this subject we beg to refer your Honble. Court to the Minute of our President, the instructions to Captain Burney and our Dispatch to the Supreme Government, which fully explain the objects of the appointment.

Cons. 4th Jany.
Cons. 15th Jany.
Cons. 27th Jany.

77. Captain Burney quitted this for Quedah on on the 20th Jany. and returned on the 28th. His first report of proceedings and correspondence with the Siamese Chiefs together with the Minutes in Council and our resolutions, will be found on our Consultations noted in the margin.

Cons. 3d Feby. 1825.

78. Captain Burney, upon being provided with additional letters to the Chiefs to the northward, again sailed for Quedah on the 7th Febry. During his absence a reply was received from the Rajah of Ligore to our President's letter dated 13th Decr. communicating the success of our forces in Ava. On our proceedings noted in the margin your Honble. Court will observe a communication from the Superintendent of Point Wellesley relative to the designs of the Siamese against Salengore.

Cons. 17th Febry. 1825.
Cons. Do.

79. The object in view of the Siamese Authorities appearing to us to be fraught with injury to the British interests and to be nearly the final step to the complete subjugation of the Malay Peninsula, we lost no time in making a special report of the progress of the Siamese conquests to the Right Honble. the Governor General in Council; more particularly with reference to the approaching transfer of Malacca and to

Cons. 18 Feby. 1825.

the treaties and relations subsisting between that Settlement and the States of Salengore and Rumbow. To this report we have not yet received a reply.

80. Our President availing himself of the presence of two Envoys from the Rajah of Ligore who had solicited an interview with him, took the opportunity of acquainting them for the information of His Highness, that under the circumstances of the expected transfer of Malacca to the British Government, any hostilities by the Rajah of Ligore against the Malayan State of Salengore would not be regarded with indifference. We beg to refer your Honble. Court to the proceedings noted in the margin for a memorandum of a conversation with the Envoys and the reply of our President to the Rajah's letter.

Cons. 28th Feby. 1825.

81. During Captain Burney's absence a letter was received from the Rajah of Ligore brought by a messenger whom Captn. Burney had sent across from Quedah for the purpose of requesting a meeting with His Highness. The style of the letter appeared so evasive that we were of opinion no advantage was likely to be obtained by farther attempts on the part of our Envoy to negociate with the Rajah of Ligore and we accordingly addressed a letter to Captn. Burney to that effect, which we forwarded to him at Traang or Poongah at one of which places he was supposed to be.

Cons. 17th March

Cons. 24th March

82. Captain Burney returned to this Presidency early in April, and his reports and correspondence together with the minutes of Council and the Dispatch which we addressed to the Right Honble. the Governor General in Council upon the subject will be found in our proceedings as per margin.

Cons. 7th April.

83. It appeared to us that altho' Captain Burney had been favorably received by the Pya of Poongha and some inferior chiefs in the vicinity of the island

of Junk Ceylon who possess however very limited powers and influence, there was but little prospect of any satisfactory adjustment being effected by further negociation with the petty states on this side the peninsula and we were of opinion that no farther measures should be adopted by this Government until apprised of the views and sentiments to which the state of the war and the additional facts brought to the notice of the Supreme Government, might incline the Right Honble. the Governor General in Council.

84. Under these considerations we deemed it advisable to direct Captn. Burney to proceed to Bengal without delay, in order that he might receive such immediate instructions as His Lordship in Council might deem expedient with reference to the information contained in that officer's report.

85. With the determination which we had adopted, of awaiting the further instructions and being guided implicitly by the orders of the Supreme Government, it would have been extremely satisfactory to us to have suspended all further communications or correspondence with the Rajah of Ligore, until the return of Captain Burney and the expected advices from the Right Honble. the Governor General in Council.

86. A variety of events however which have followed in rapid succession, have rendered a different course of procedure on our part, unavoidable. About the middle of the month of April, it was ascertained that there was a strict prohibition against the export of grain from Quedah and being anxious to remove this restriction if possible, and reduce the price of rice, the high rate of which caused much inconvenience to the lower classes of our population, we directed our Malay Translator to address a mild remonstrance to the young Siamese Chief at Quedah; no explanation

Cons. 21st April 1825.

has been afforded, but an evasive reply couched in civil terms returned. Very small quantities of grain have since been imported evidently for the purpose of keeping up appearance only.

87. During the month of April various rumours prevailed at this Settlement and reports were brought by native traders of extensive preparations at Traang and other ports to the northward, of the assembly of a very large fleet of prows from all the adjoining rivers, of the export from Quedah to Traang of large quantities of grain for the Siamese armament, and of the arrival of the Rajah of Ligore and many other Siamese Chiefs with a large force at Traang. The alarms and apprehensions of the native inhabitants both on this island and at Province Wellesley were very great and altho' the general belief amongst the better informed classes was, that the armament was destined for Salengore, yet a very serious impression prevailed of hostile designs against this Settlement.

88. The reports from the Superintendent of Point Wellesley and our Malay Translator who had natives in their employ collecting intelligence respecting the movements of the Siamese, confirmed the reports, in a great degree. We did not delay therefore in adopting such precautionary measures as we were enabled to make to guard against any surprise, pending a more full investigation into the truth of the prevailing rumour.

89. The result of our enquiries and investigation has fully developed the existence of a very large well-equipped fleet (a great part of which is in the Quedah river and the other rivers adjacent) and very ambiguous designs on the part of the Ligore Rajahs. Our demands for explanation respecting the object of so large an armament and its intended destination have up to this date, been unsuccessful. The vessels of observation which are stationed to the northward

were placed under the orders of Mr. Maingy the Superintendent of Point Wellesley and that Gentleman has proceeded twice to Quedah and had interviews with the Rajah of Ligore.

Cons. 3d, 4th, 12th, 19th, 24th, 26th, May and 2d June.

90. We earnestly call the particular attention of your Honble. Court to the proceedings noted in the margin and trust you will approve of the policy which we have observed on so momentous and important an occasion. Your Honble. Court will not fail to observe, we have had serious grounds for doubting the fidelity of some part of the Chinese population of this island. Every available and proper precaution has been taken to guard this Settlement against any attempts by external or internal enemies to disturb its peace and to preserve tranquility as much as possible. We anxiously await the instructions of the Supreme Government to which we made reference in the early part of these proceedings. No opportunity has occurred for Bengal during the last three weeks, and we have not been able to communicate to that Authority, the important events which have since transpired.

91. Upon a very attentive and deliberate consideration of all the negociations that have taken place between this Governt. and the Ligore Rajah, during the last 3½ years, since the conquest of Quedah, we do not hesitate to express our unanimous conviction, that no good will ever result from further attempts to negociate with that faithless and turbulent chief and that if he is permitted to establish himself for any time, on this side the peninsula, the British Settlements in the Straits of Malacca, will be exposed to perpetual danger and the inhabitants kept in a constant state of alarm, while an enormous expense must unavoidably be incurred in defending our possessions and, a great diminution in the commerce of this quarter may be anticipated.

92. We do not expect nor ever have anticipated, any cordial co-operation by the Siamese against the Burmans and it cannot fail to attract particular observation, that while the Minister of the Emperor is professing to unite against the Burmans, he should select the present time for assembling so large a force in the immediate vicinity of this island for some hostile enterprise to the southward.

Vide Resident of Singapore's dispatches Cons. 19th May 1825.

93. We shall continue to observe with careful and unrelaxed vigilance the movements of the Rajah of Ligore's fleet and endeavour so to dispose our small marine and military force as to evince our preparations for defence while we shall cautiously abstain from the adoption of any measures calculated to provoke hostilities.

94. Captain Low who was deputed as Lieut. Colonel Snow's Assistant has been recalled from Tavoy and directed also by the Supreme Government to return to his duty at this Presidency. A reference to our proceedings will show how that officer has been employed since he quitted this Settlement.

Cons. 4th 15th 27th Jany. 17th Feb. 11th Mar: 7th 21st April

95. We have much satisfaction in bringing to the notice of your Honble. Court the exertions of Mr. Maingy the Superintendent of Point Wellesley in collecting information respecting the proceeding of the Rajah of Ligore. Of this gentleman's proceedings, in his interviews with the Rajah of Ligore and superintending the Marine force destined to watch the movements of the Siamese fleet, we have signified our entire approval and consider him to be well entitled to the approbation of his employers.

* * * * * *

We have the honor to be with the greatest respect

HONORABLE SIRS,

Your Most Obedient

faithful humble Servants,

R. FULLERTON

W. A. CLUBLEY

R. IBBETSON

FORT CORNWALLIS

The 2d. June 1825.

(Endorsed:—)

Fort Cornwallis
2d. June 1825

Letter to the Honble.
Court of Directors.

Read in Court
2 Novr. 1825

Recd. Per Ann & Amelia
2d. Novr. 1825.

Factory Records, Straits Settlements, Vol. 183.

Separate.

TO

THE HONORABLE THE COURT OF DIRECTORS FOR THE AFFAIRS OF THE UNITED COMPANY OF MERCHANTS OF ENGLAND TRADING TO THE EAST INDIES,

LONDON.

HONORABLE SIRS,

We had the Honor of addressing your Honorable Court on the 4th of August last. In that Letter we referred you to our Dispatch which formed a Number in the Packet to the Supreme Government, wherein we stated our intention of deputing Mr. Anderson, of your Civil Service, to arrange with the Rajahs of Salengore and Perak those terms respecting the latter place which Captain Burney had made the subject of our mediation with the Chief of Ligore. We have now to notify Mr. Anderson's return and we request the notice of your Honorable Court to his Reports which will be found on our Consultations noted in the Margin with the Minute of our President thereon.

Cons. 1st. 22d. & 29th. Sepr.

2. We beg to direct the attention of your Honourable Court to the Letter from the Supreme Government on our Consultation of the 21st July and to the recorded Sentiments of our President of the same date. We have to acquaint you that the Honorable the Governor having accepted the Charge confided in him by the Supreme Government has dispatched Messrs. Maingy and Blundell of your Civil Service, the former as Commissioner and Mr. Blundell as Assistant to Mergui and Tavoy, there to make such arrangements, and to institute such enquires into the resources of these Settlements as will enable our President on his arrival on the Tenasserim Coast to carry at once into execution the measures for our final

Cons. 21st. July

occupation of whatever places in that direction, he in communication with the Supreme Government may deem advisable to retain.

Cons. 1st September.

3. Your Honorable Court will observe by a reference to a Letter dated 30th August from Captain Burney the unfortunate accident which prevented him from accompanying Messrs. Maingy and Blundell to the Coast of Tenasserim. We request your perusal of our President's Minute on this occasion and we deem it only necessary to observe that Captain Burney sailed for Bangkok on the 25th Instant.

Cons. 8th September.

We have the honor to be with the greatest respect
Honorable Sirs,
Your most obedient faithful
humble Servants
R. FULLERTON
W. A. CLUBLEY
R. IBBETSON.

FORT CORNWALLIS
The 14: October 1825.

(Endorsed :—)

Fort Cornwallis
14 Octr. 1825

Separate Letter to the
Honorable Court of Directors
dated 14 October 1825.

No. 1.

Read in Court 12th April 1826.

Recd. Per City of Edinburgh
12th April 1826.

FORT CORNWALLIS—The 7: October 1825.

Factory Records, Straits Settlements, Vol. 104, pp. 1-14.

AT A COUNCIL—Present

The HONORABLE ROBERT FULLERTON

Governor—President

WILLIAM ARMSTRONG CLUBLEY Esqre.

and

ROBERT IBBETSON Esquire.

Read and Approved the Proceedings of the 29 Ultimo.

SEPARATE.

THE following Memorandum of a Conversation with the Envoys of the Rajah of Ligore is recorded.

Memorandum of a Conversation with the Envoys from the Rajah of Ligore.

MEMORANDUM

of a Conversation with the four Envoys from the Chow Pya of Ligore, on Saturday the 1st of October 1825.

---

1. The Envoys confirmed the report of the Chow Pya's departure for Setool on his way to Ligore, and after some general Conversation, mentioned that they expected here in a few days, four or five Prows, laden with Rice, which His Highness intends to send to Perak as a present to the King. They also stated that there was a party of about 40 Siamese and 200 Malays on the point of setting out for Perak over land, to accompany the Rajah Kechil Muda, the King's brother on his return.

2. The Honorable the Governor remarked that if the Prows with the Rice arrived here, he would, after examining them, send a Cruiser to accompany them to Perak, but he could not consent to any party

going across the Country from Kedah, which would be contrary to the provisions of the Treaty entered into with Captain Burney. He therefore desired the Envoys to inform their Master that he could not approve of his sending any men to Perak.

3. The Envoys replied that the Treaty provided only against an *Armament* being sent, and said that the Chow Pya might send People to Perak as the Country was tributary to Siam.

4. The Honorable the Governor enquired if the Envoys were not aware that Perak had been under the Government of the Netherlands, and whether they had ever heard of a force proceeding from this Island to take possession of the Dutch Fortifications in that Country. He also reminded them that a close alliance had, for a long series of years, subsisted between Malacca and the States of Perak and Salangore, and that by a recent Treaty the Dutch had surrendered to the British Govt. all its possessions and privileges acquired by Treaty, on the Peninsula of Malacca. The Honorable the Governor further observed that the object of his interference in expelling Rajah Hassan and establishing a proper boundary between the States of Perak and Salangore, was to restore peace, to prevent any further cause of dispute and to reinvest the King of Perak with his Sovereign rights. The Envoys were therefore enjoined to inform the Chow Pya that this Government having performed the several Conditions specified in the Treaty made with Captain Burney, must require from the Chow Pya of Ligore a punctual observance of the Conditions on his part, and would therefore object to any thing like an infraction of the terms already settled. The Envoys were, in conclusion, distinctly informed that no further interference on the part of the Siamese with Perak or Salangore would be permitted.

P. W. Island
the 5: October 1825.

(Signed) JOHN ANDERSON
Malay Transr. to Govt.

THE PRESIDENT lays before the Board the following Translation of a letter to the Chow Pya of Ligore, in answer to one brought by his Envoys.

To the Rajah of Ligore 5 October.

To THE RAJAH OF LIGORE.

FROM The Honorable Robert Fullerton Esqr. Governor of Pulo Penang to the Chow Pya of Ligore.

I have duly received my friend's letter brought by his Envoys, who have been permitted to purchase freely whatever they required. I had anticipated my friend's wishes in respect to sending him Copies of the Engagements entered into between the Chiefs of Perak and Salangore and my Agent, and as the Cruiser which conveyed my Dispatches to Kedah has returned some days I have no doubt my friend is already in possesssion of the information he desired. I have also had some Conversation with my friend's Envoys, and to them and the letters already sent, I must refer my friend for all particulars.

In conclusion, I can only repeat the assurance of my anxious desire to cultivate the most friendly relations with my friend and the Siamese Nation, and I trust that he will give so sincere a proof of a reciprocal feeling by his attentions to Captain Burney, the Agent to the Governor General, that the good understanding now happily subsisting between the two Nations may be strengthened and promoted, and there may be no chance of future difference.

I send my friend a telescope of the best English Manufacture, and a piece of Scarlet Broad Cloth, and a piece of Satin, as a token of my regard.

(Signed) R. FULLERTON

Penang
the 5 October 1825.

P.S. A Cruiser has been sent to give safe Convoy to my friend's Vessels to Kedah.

From the Malay Translator To the Rajah of Ligore.

TO THE RAJAH OF LIGORE

Letter

from the Malay Translator to the Chow Pya of Ligore.

The letter which my friend sent me by his Envoys Kon Aksoon, Nei Neem and Nei Simei with the Coyan of Rice, have been duly received, and I am much obliged by the polite attentions of my friend. His Envoys have been treated with Kindness by the Honorable the Governor, and permitted to purchase without interruption, whatever they required.

My friend may be assured that my inclination no less than my duty in conformity to the orders of my Superiors, will always make me desirous to evince towards my friend's Agents the greatest regard to their wants, and it is always gratifying to me to be the channel of cementing that friendship and cordiality which the Honorable the Governor is so desirous of promoting between the British and Siamese Nations.

The particulars of my proceedings as Agent to this Government at Perak and Salangore have been already communicated to my friend and I trust that he will be pleased with them and perceive that the Conditions of Captain Burney's Treaty have been faithfully performed on the part of this Government.

I have the pleasure to send my friend a piece of Europe White Cloth, 2 pieces Muslin, 1 Dozen Cherry Brandy, 1 Dozen Lavender Water, a Book containing Views of Buildings in England, and a Picture, as a return for the Present with which he honored me.

(Signed) JNO. ANDERSON.
Malay. Transr. to Govt.

P. W. Island
the 5. October 1825.

Malay Translator.

READ a letter from the Malay Translator with the following Translation of a letter from the Chow Pya of Ligore to the King of Kedah.

From the Chow Pya of Ligore to the King of Kedah.

TRANSLATION

of a letter from the Chow Pya of Ligore to the King of Kedah.

Being about to return to Ligore, we went to see the tombs of the Morhum * and many people accompanied us. Tuanko Mahomed Asaad, Tuanko Mahomed Arāshād and Tuanko Mahomed Akeyb went also to the Burying Ground, and we directed the pilgrims and priests to read Prayers at the Tombs of the Morhum, the Raja Muda, Tuanko Daud and Pya Ampy Noorat, we gave Charity also to the Pilgrims and Priests. We directed Artaps to be purchased and new Roofs to be constructed over the Tombs, and we appointed Malays to take care of them, and make the necessary repairs every year.

When we return we will bring with us Tuanko Jam Jam, Tuanko Yakoob, and all their followers, and give a funeral feast at these Tombs.

Tuanko Jam Jam and Tuanko Yakoob who are residing at Ligore, were attacked with the small pox last year; we provided them with a Doctor to take care that no marks remained. All of them who are at Ligore are well taken care of if afflicted with sickness, and they have proper medical attendance. All the young Tuankos are instructing in the Malay language, and are training up in conformity to the rules and customs of the Malayan religion.

Dated 10th day of 10th Month Wednesday Year Zy.

A True Translation

PENANG
the 6 October 1825.

(Signed) JOHN ANDERSON
Malay Transr. to Govt.

* The designation of the Malay King after death, literally "Saint". This is meant for the King of Kedah's father.

Malay Translator.

READ a letter from the Malay Translator to the Son of the Chow Pya, with an open letter for transmission to his father

THE PRESIDENT lays before the Board the following letter from the King of Kedah dated 20 September last, with his reply annexed.

Rajah of Kedah.

RAJAH OF KEDAH.

TRANSLATION

of a letter from the Ex Rajah of Kedah to the Honorable Robert Fullerton Esquire, Governor of Pulo Penang.

(After Compliments.)

With respect to the letter which the Rajah of Ligore sent to me and my reply thereto, I desired Mr. Richard Caunter to shew them to my friend, who is of course acquainted therewith. I mentioned in my letter that if the Rajah of Ligore will bring back to Kedah my Sister and Son, their Children and followers whom he seized and conveyed to Ligore, and when I hear that they are safely settled there, I will return to Kedah to receive the Country and all my Children and people. If the Rajah of Ligore conforms to my letter and returns all my Children and followers to Kedah, I will assuredly go and receive charge but I rely upon my friend's assistance at the same time. If my friend will send an Agent with the proper proportion of Sepoys, about 400 or 500 men, and advance a little on account of expense, I will then go; for I came to reside at Pulo Penang and placed my reliance upon the assistance of the King of England and the Company in all respects. With respect to all my circumstances in returning to Kedah, I desire to proceed with the power

of the King of England and the Company. Such is my wish, and I beg to make the same known to my friend, whatever may be my friend's opinion and resolution upon this subject, I request that he will be pleased to inform me, in order that my mind may be at ease; and I trust that my desire of returning to Kedah will be accomplished, mean time will await the intelligence from the Rajah of Ligore.

Dated 9th of Saafar 1241.

Penang
the 20 Sep. 1825.

A True Translation

(Signed) JOHN ANDERSON

Malay Transr. to Govt.

To the King of Kedah.

REPLY TO THE ABOVE LETTER.

I have received my friend's letter of the 9th of Saafar, and beg to assure him that the interests of himself and family are not forgotten, and his restoration to his ancient dignity will always be considered a primary object of all negotiations with the Siamese Government. Under present circumstances however, it will be better for my friend to remain here quietly; when the favorable time arrives due notice will be given, and proper arrangements made for the security of my friend and his family.

(Signed) R. FULLERTON

29 September 1825.

Factory Records, Straits Settlements, Vol. 104. pp. 72-87.

FORT CORNWALLIS The 24 October 1825.

AT A COUNCIL—Present
THE HONORABLE ROBERT FULLERTON
Governor—President
WILLIAM ARMSTRONG CLUBLEY Esquire
and
ROBERT IBBETSON Esquire.

READ and APPROVED the Proceedings of the 14: Instant.

SEPARATE.

THE PRESIDENT submits to the Board the following Translations of Letters and Drafts of replies, and proposes that Copies thereof be transmitted for the information of the Political Agent to Siam, vizt.

From the King of Perak 14: October 1825.

FROM THE RAJAH OF PERAK.

Translation

of a letter from Sri Sultan Abdullah, King of Perak to the Houble. R. Fullerton Esquire, Governor of Pulo Penang.

After Compliments.

The letter which my friend sent me by Captain Poynton and Cranny Mallimsaib, reached me in safety, and I received it with a thousand compliments and great pleasure. I fully comprehend every word and wish therein expressed, and I feel impressed with a grateful sense of obligation to the Almighty. What is mentioned in my friend's letter, relative to prolonging the friendly understanding which has subsisted between the Country of Perak and Penang and Malacca from the earliest times, is very gratifying to me; because a free and uninterrupted intercourse

will be maintained between them. With respect to my friend's intention also to prevent disturbances in the Perak Country my friend is better able to judge how he may best assist me. I have however no means of making an adequate return for my friend's kindness; but the Almighty will repay him for his desire to restore me to happiness. I am but a humble man, and will be possessed of little power, except by my friend's assistance in improving my Country.

As to my friend's sending a Cruiser to the Perak River, he is the best able to judge what is beneficial, for all the affairs of my Country and Government I have transferred to my friend and the Chow Pya of Ligore, and whatever appears best in the judgement of my friend, I shall approve of and observe. I refer all to my friend's consideration. If good results to my friend we shall participate, if evil, we will take our share, but my friend knows all better than we do. If my friend is disposed to shew kindness and confidence to me, I request he will assist me with forty Coyans of of Rice, for the purpose of distributing to the people of the Country, who are in distress. I beg my friend's assistance therefore.

Dated 24th of Saafar 1241.

PENANG
the 14: October 1825.

A True Translation

(Signed) JOHN ANDERSON
Malay Transr. to Govt.

From the Raja of Salangore 15 October 1825.

FROM THE RAJAH OF SALANGORE.

Translation

of a letter from Sri Sultan Ibrahim Shah, King of Salangore to the Honorable Robert Fullerton, Governor of Pulo Penang.

(After Compliments.)

The letter which my friend sent by the Captain of the Cruiser has reached me in safety. I perused it and found it contained a demand for 2000 Dollars from me. If it be on account of the property of Che Hat that my friend wishes this, I will not pay one Pice, for I did not take it, and I informed my friend's Agent Mr. John Anderson of this and made him acquainted with everything.

Moreover if my friend still insists on these two thousand Dollars, he does not desire to settle the differences between Siam and Salangore, for I never took the property of Che Hat, nor of the Perak people. I did not burn any houses, nor did I put to death a single person. Having explained everything to my friend's Agent, I made an engagement with the Agent. As there was no further doubt and everything was settled, I made an engagement. Had everything not been settled, I should not have made an Agent. * Farther had my friend's Agent insisted upon these two thousand Dollars, I should not have made the Engagement, for I would not consent as to that, the property of the Siamese, let my life be extinguished. To my friend's Agent also I stated, let my life be taken.

* Sic. ? engagement.

Moreover as to the Country of Perak, I have restored it to the King. I invested him with regal honors and proclaimed him King. An engagement was made between us that from the Duty of 12 Dollars per Bahar, 6 Dollars should be paid to me, and 6 Dollars to the King of Perak—such was the engagement

between us. The King is indebted to me to the amount of Spanish Dollars 3128, which I mentioned to my friend's Agent, and I also informed him that upon his arrival at Perak, he might have an opportunity of seeing the engagement between the King of that Country and me, and the Account. As to the King's debts to me, if he will not pay them, I must go myself and receive the money.

Respecting Rajah Hassan, he is not in my control, for he went to reside at Perak by the request of the King and Rajah Hassan resides with his Majesty's Aunt. If the King of Perak orders Rajah Hassan to to depart, he will quit—if he does not order him, Rajah Hassan will not leave.

I have nothing to send as a token of friendship, but present many compliments to my friend.

Dated 21st Saafar 1241.

Penang
15: October 1825.

A True Translation

(Signed) JOHN ANDERSON
Malay Transr. to Govt.

To the Rajah of Salangore 21 October 1825.

TO THE RAJAH OF SALANGORE.

Letter

from the Honorable Robert Fullerton Esquire, Governor of Pulo Penang, to the King of Salangore.

I have received my friend's letter dated 21 Saafar, brought by the Commander of the Cruiser. After having prevented the Ligore fleet from proceeding to attack my friend's Country, I did not expect he would have disputed concerning 2,000 Dollars. My friend must therefore abide the consequences that happen. As to my friend's claims against the King of Perak, endeavours shall be made to adjust all disputes. Let my friend recollect that he has made a solemn engagement not to interfere in any degree with the Perak Country.

(Signed) R. FULLERTON
Governor.

Penang
21 : October 1825.

From the Chow Pya of Ligore 18 October 1825.

FROM THE CHOW PYA OF LIGORE.

Translation

of a letter from the Chow Pya of Ligore to the Honorable Robert Fullerton Esquire, Governor of Pulo Penang

(After Compliments.)

May my friend be informed that the Rajah of Perak having requested Rice, I sent a reply to his application overland, promising to comply with it and send him Rice. If I do not fulfil this promise, it will have the appearance of a falsehood, and I am therefore very anxious upon the subject. I formerly sent a letter to my friend, stating my intention of sending four small Prahus to Perak, each Boat containing 3 or 4 Coyans; but as these were not quite sufficient to carry all the Rice, I have added one more Prahu to to the number, which makes five in all. No Siamese have been sent, but only Malays, Nakodah Mahomed and Raja Sri Lela. Perak people are in charge of these Prahus, and they have been directed to call at Pulo Penang on their way, and wait on my friend, for the purpose of requesting a letter or pass for each Prahu.

I have exceeding great confidence in my friend that he will permit these Prahus to pass on to Perak, so that I may not be guilty of falsehood. My friend will evince to me the sincerity of his friendship by letting the Prahus arrive in safety, and it will prove that his friendship and regard for me is sincere.

Moreover after the Prahus have arrived at Perak and delivered the Rice to the Rajah of Perak, and again returned to Penang, I request they may be sent to Quedah without molestation or difficulty.

Dated Saturday 13th day of 10th Month Year Fowl, or 11th day of Saafar 1241 Ze (24 Septr. 1825).

A True Translation

Penang
The 18 October 1825.

(Sd.) JOHN. ANDERSON
Malay Transr. to Govt.

To the Rajah of Ligore 21 October 1825.

TO THE RAJAH OF LIGORE.

I have received my friend's letter of the 13th of the 10th Month. As the Prows mentioned contain only Rice, and it was not intended by the late arrangement to prevent trade, buying and selling between all the parties, I have permitted the said Prows to pass to Perak and have sent a Cruiser to see them safe into the Perak River: but let my friend be informed that as it is agreed between all parties that no interference should take place in the management of the Perak Country, either by the Siamese or the King of Salangore, but that the King of Perak should be left entirely to himself, it is desirable that no Siamese should remain in the Perak Country. If such should be the case, the King of Salangore may send his people, and all the trouble we have taken in expelling Rajah Hassan and fixing the boundary will be lost. I communicate this to my friend from an anxious desire to keep all things quiet, and preserve the peaceable arrangements that have been made.

(Signed) R. FULLERTON
Governor

Penang
21 : Octr. 1825.

Report of the Malay Translator to the Governor 20 October.

REPORT of the MALAY TRANSLATOR.

To THE HONORABLE

ROBERT FULLERTON Esqre.

Governor &c. &c. &c.

Honble. Sir,

Agreeably to your desire, I have the honor to report the information obtained from Nakodah Mahomet, who brought the letter from the Chow Pya of Ligore a few days ago, and who has charge of the five Prahus laden with Rice for Perak.

Nakodah Mahomet is the person mentioned in my late reports as having been principally concerned in the plunder of the Siamese Boats at Perak between two and three years ago, and has been the bearer of correspondence of late between the Chow Pya of Ligore and the King of Perak. He states that accounts have actually been received by the Baginda Muda at Quedah of the Chow Pya's arrival at Ligore, that all the Prahus are dismantled and on shore up the Trang and other Rivers to the Northward, and that the Cholera Morbus has carried off a considerable number of the Siamese. Of the small party of Perak people who were lately at Quedah, 16 men have fallen victims to the Epidemic, and the remainder with the Rajah Kechil Muda and Orang Kaya Besar set out on their return overland to Perak eleven days ago accompanied by a party of 50 Siamese, under a Chief named Aluang Packdi Song Kram, and 200 Malays from Kedah.

The Nakoda states the object of this party proceeding to Perak to be precisely what is mentioned in the letters from the Chow Pya to the King, of which I procured copies and submitted translations with my last report, namely, to remain (*if the King has no objections*) and assist in governing the Country, until the return of the Chow Pya of Ligore from Bangkok,

and His Majesty may also retain, *if he pleases*, the 5 Prows now about to proceed with Rice together with the party of 60 Kedah Malays. The Prows have not been provided with Arms. which the Chow Pya said was unnecessary, as a Cruiser would give them Convoy from hence.

I have &c. &c. &c.

(Signed) JOHN ANDERSON

Malay Transr. to Gt.

Penang
the 20: Octr. 1825.

Rajah of Perak 18 October 1825.

RAJAH OF PERAK.

Translation

of a letter from Sultan Abdullah King of Perak to the Honorable Robert Fullerton Esquire, Governor of Pulo Penang.

(After Compliments.)

I formerly sent Nakodah Mahomet to sell Tin at Pulo Penang, 90 Bahars, more or less, and my Tin he sold to Syed Aloway. From the price of that Tin, Abdulrahman retained 190 Dollars, which he stated to be on account of a Debt due by persons of the name of Hamid and Seman. The Tin was mine, and I have again directed Nakodah Mahomet to apply for the price thereof. Should there be any dispute on this head, I trust to my friend assisting me in obtaining a settlement of the price of the Tin.

Written on the 15th Mohurrum, 30th August 1825.

A True Translation

(Signed) JOHN ANDERSON
Malay Transr. to Govt.

Penang
the 18: Octr, 1825.

To the Rajah of Perak 21: October 1825.

TO THE RAJAH OF PERAK.

Letter

from the Honorable Robert Fullerton Esqre. Governor of Pulo Penang to the King of Perak.

I have received my friend's letter dated 15: Mohurrum, relative to a dispute concerning the price of some Tin sent for Sale to this Island. Enquiry will be made into the circumstance. Five Prows with Rice from Quedah have been permitted to pass to Perak, it not being intended to prevent trading between the two Countries but by the Agreement made it was not intended that either the King of Salangore or the Rajah of Ligore should interfere in the management of Perak. If any such interference be offered, my friend must inform me of all particulars. The King of Salangore claims certain sums due by my friend, which I request may be explained.

(Signed) R. FULLERTON
Governor

Penang
21. Octr. 1825.

ORDERED accordingly that Copies of the above recorded Papers, with Mr. Poynton's recent report from Perak, be transmitted to Captain Burney.

Factory Records, Straits Settlements, Vol. 104, pp. 255-269.

FORT CORNWALLIS—The 11 : November 1825.

AT A COUNCIL—Present.

The HONORABLE ROBERT FULLERTON,

Governor—President

WILLIAM ARMSTRONG CLUBLEY Esquire
and
ROBERT IBBETSON Esquire.

READ and APPROVED the Proceedings of the 5 : Instant.

SEPARATE

Governor General in Council Fort William 2d. September 1825.

GOVERNOR GENERAL IN COUNCIL.

To THE HONORABLE
R. FULLERTON Esquire
Governor in Council
Prince of Wales Island.

HONORABLE SIR,

We have now the honor to reply to your Dispatches dated 14. May and 10 June last, which were duly received with their several enclosures; also to one from the Acting Resident at Malacca dated 18 June.

2. We regret sincerely to learn, that the intelligence which had reached you of the warlike operations by the Raja of Ligore at the ports of Trang, Kedah &c. and of his intention to attack the Malay State of Salangore has been now so fully verified and confirmed. The defensive attitude which you have assumed was fully warranted by the assemblage of an unusual force of armed Prows in your neighbourhood under circumstances inducing a belief that a

hostile descent was meditated on the Island of Penang itself and you are already aware, that on receiving your last dispatch we considered it a measure of prudent and proper precaution, to detach a reinforcement to your Presidency consisting of one Regiment of Native Infantry, and to request the Chief Naval Officer at Rangoon to send a Vessel of War to cruise off the station. We continue however, to think it highly improbable that the Raja of Ligore should seriously contemplate so gross and daring an outrage against the British Power as an attack on the settlement of Prince of Wales' Island, for the purpose of carrying off the Ex-King of Quedah—conduct which he must be well aware would draw down upon himself personally the most exemplary and inevitable chastisement, and would probably involve the two nations in a state of War.

3. It is now necessary for us to communicate to you the result of our earnest and deliberate consideration, of the question of the policy, which should be pursued towards the petty Malayan state of Salangore in the existing conjuncture of affairs.

4. Whatever may be the proximate or prospective inconvenience attending the subjugation of Salangore and its neighbours by the Siamese Power we apprehend that in the present state of our relations with the parties, that act on the part of Siam even were we disposed to resist it by force of Arms could scarcely be considered to constitute a just and legitimate ground of war: and we are quite satisfied of the political inexpediency of embroiling ourselves in hostilities in the particular crisis, with a power which it is our object to conciliate, and when our whole disposable force is already sufficiently occupied in other quarters for the defence of states which have no claim to our protection and which moreover have never even solicited it. It is to be observed Mr. Cracroft's despatch now under acknowledgement,

distinctly shews that the Raja of Salangore does not ask our aid or protection, and that the only political treaties which existed between that Chief and the settlement of Malacca, were formally abrogated by the Supreme Govt. of Batavia, soon after their formation in 1819. Whilst therefore the circumstances of the case, in our opinion fully justified your remonstrating with the Raja of Ligore, against his meditated encroachment upon the rights of an independant and friendly state in your neighbourhood, and also your refusing a passage to the Armament destined to carry his hostile purposes into effect, through the straits of Penang, we cannot authorize your taking any further steps, or adopting measures of force for preventing the threatened aggression and we must be content to leave to a future period, the remedy of the evils arising from the Siamese occupation of Salangore, should these in practice prove to be so positively and directly injurious to our interests, as your Government anticipate. If it is considered by you a material object to avert for a time the blow obviously meditated against Salangore, we observe, that an opening is afforded for temporizing by the indirect application for your mediation in the dispute between that state and Perak which is contained in the letter from the Raja of Ligore dated 2nd. June, and which might possibly be improved into the means of effecting an advantageous compromise of the Siamese claims in that quarter.

5. We must of course regard the interposition of the British Government in defence of Perak as still less justifiable than in the case of Salangore, because it appears that in 1818 we virtually recognized the Supremacy of Siam over that portion of the Malayan Peninsula, our offers of friendly advice and mediation were then rejected by the Raja and the Chief of Ligore has since in part obtained actual occupancy of the country.

6. Conformably with the above views and principles, the Resident at Malacca will of course be instructed to avoid holding out any expectation of aid from the British Government to the people, whether of Salangore or Rumbow, and should the Siamese advance to the attack of either place, his measures and arrangements must be strictly limited to those of a defensive character.

We have &ca.

(Signed) AMHERST

„ EDWD. PAGET

„ J. H. HARRINGTON

FORT WILLIAM
the 2 Septr. 1825.

Govr. Genl. in Council Fort William 16 Septr. 1825.

GOVERNOR GENERAL IN COUNCIL

TO THE HONORABLE
R. FULLERTON Esqre.
Governor in Council
Prince of Wales Island.

Honorable Sir,

We have had the honor to receive your Despatches Nos. 927 and 928 dated the 4th Ultimo.

2. The contents of the former of these despatches have afforded us the highest satisfaction. We congratulate your Honorable Board on the successful termination of your discussions with the Rajah of Ligore who it appears has been induced to withdraw from your vicinity a large portion of his force, and to conclude an agreement by which he leaves to our mediation the settlement of his dispute with the Rajah of Salangore and engages to abstain from molesting either that state or the state of Perak by Land or Sea.

3, We fully concur with your Honorable Board in ascribing the relinquishment by the Rajah of Ligore of his hostile views against the southern Malay states to the decided tone of remonstrance assumed by your President in his correspondence with that Chief and to the efficient measures adopted by you to resist any meditated act of aggression on his part. The very opportune arrival of Captain Burney at Penang and the ability and address with which he availed himself of the confidence reposed in him by the Rajah mainly contributed also to this very desirable result. That able and intelligent Officer we are happy to observe succeeded in removing from the mind of the Ligore Chief the suspicions which had been instilled into it of an unfriendly disposition on the part of the

British Government, and his report of his proceedings clearly shews that many of the native rumours regarding the Rajah's hostile designs against the settlement of Prince of Wales' Island and his intended treachery towards British Officers who might be deputed to his presence must have been greatly exaggerated if they were not altogether unfounded on fact. We rejoice
para. 13. to observe, that the conciliatory tone which in our letter of the 19th November last, we recommended to be adopted by the Officers of your Government towards the Rajah of Ligore has been so successfully employed by Captain Burney and we are satisfied that whatever may be real character and views of the rajah, it will be the most politic course for us to appear to give him credit for his assurances of good will and by inspiring him with a belief of our reliance on the sincerity of his professions, and our desire to cultivate a friendly understanding with him, carry him along with us in all our negotiations with the Court of Siam in which his own interests are so nearly concerned.

4. We have perused with great satisfaction Captain Burney's report of the conferences which under the instructions furnished to him by the Governor he held with the Rajah of Ligore, and we certainly concur in the sentiments expressed in Mr. Fullerton's Minute and by your Honorable Board collectively on the subject of that report and of the preliminary Treaty the several provisions of which appear to us to be unobjectionable and in accordance with our views and interests.

5. We approve of your intention to despatch an Agent to Salangore with instructions for his guidance in the spirit of your present communication to us which we are happy to observe is in general conformity with the views we have taken in our address of the 2nd Instant, the policy therein prescribed being quite consistent with every thing that has been arranged with the Rajah of Ligore. The removal of Rajah

Hussein from the Perak river we consider to be a measure of unquestionable expediency, and the payment by the Rajah of Salangore of the compensation settled by Capt. Burney, on proof of the seizure and destruction of the Siamese boats, will not we trust be disputed by that Chief, when the important advantages secured to him by our interposition are taken into his consideration. Every effort must be made by the Agent deputed to Salangore to induce the Rajah to comply with this requisition and to agree to the settlement of a well-defined Boundary between his Country and Perak.

6. With respect to the removal of the Siamese forces and authority from Quedah and the ultimate re-establishment of a Malay Government in that Country, the final settlement as you observe, of that important question, must be negotiated at the Court of Siam. Adverting to the success which has already attended Captain Burney's negotiations with the Rajah of Ligore and to the ready disposition recently evinced by the Court of Siam to meet our wishes in other respects, we indulge a confident persuasion, that this very desirable object will ultimately be accomplished; but we entirely agree with you in opinion, that it would not at present be prudent to reduce your Military and Naval Establishments below the scale proposed by Mr. Fullerton in his Minute of the 18th May.

7. On the subject of your second letter of the 4th Ultimo, No. 928 in reply to that part of our letter of the 13th May which related to the late acquisitions on the Coast of Tenasserim, we desire to express to you our cordial satisfaction at Mr. Fullerton's acceptance of the charge which we requested him to undertake, and to signify our confirmation of the arrangements detailed in his Minute of the 15th July. On this subject we shall enter into further detail in our answer to Mr. Fullerton's separate letter of the 24th July.

8. As the 10th Article of the Preliminary Treaty especially provides that a Copy shall be ratified by the Governor General in Council, such an Instrument will accordingly be prepared in Duplicate without delay and forwarded to Prince of Wales's Island to be exchanged against that which the Rajah of Ligore will produce on the part of his own Sovereign the King of Siam or otherwise to be made use of according to circumstances.

We have &c.

(Signed) AMHERST

„ E. PAGET

„ J. H. HARRINGTON

Fort William
the 16 Septr. 1825.

Secy. to the Supreme Government in the Political Department dated 6 Septr. 1825.

READ a letter from the Secretary to the Supreme Government in the Political Department transmitting ratified Treaty with the Rajah of Ligore.

ORDERED that the Treaty with a Copy of the Despatch from the Supreme Government dated 16th September be forwarded to the Political Agent at Siam.

Factory Records, Straits Settlements, Vol. 104, pp. 273-274.

FORT CORNWALLIS—The 11 November 1825.

To

THE HONORABLE
R. FULLERTON Esqr.
Governor of Prince of Wales' Island.

Honble. Sir,

* * * * * *

5. We entirely approve of your intention to avail yourself of the services of Captain Burney to act temporarily in conjunction with Mr. Maingy as second Commissioner and we desire to leave it entirely to your own judgement when and in what manner, and by what route to depute Captain Burney to the Court of Siam.

6. Our separate letter of this date to the address of the Government of Prince of Wales' Island will fully apprize you of our sentiments on all points connected with the discussions with the Rajah of Ligore, and the negotiations so ably and successfully conducted by Captain Burney with that Chief. In the event of Captain Burney's proceeding to Siam before any negotiations for peace shall be opened with the Court of Ava, from which it might appear what was likely to be the fate of the Provinces of Tavoy and Mergui and our acquisitions generally on the Martaban and Tenasserim Coast, it will not be practicable for you to furnish him with definite instructions regarding the cessions which it might be expedient for us to make to Siam to induce that power to comply with our proposal for the re-establishment of a Malay Government in Quedah and the exclusion of Siamese interference with the existing Malay States on the Western side of the Peninsula. But although we are at present precluded from sanctioning any cession in that Quarter by the option which we

have authorized Brigadier General Sir Archibald Campbell to tender to the Court of Ava* the redemption of their possessions to the Southward, there can be no objection to Capt. Burney entertaining any proposition which the King of Siam may make with regard to any portion of the Burmese possessions now in our hands and reporting the same for our consideration.

* for ?

We have, &c.

(Signed) AMHERST

E. PAGET

J. H. HARINGTON

Fort William
16 Septr. 1825.

(True Copy)

Geo. Swinton

Secy. to Govt.

Factory Records, Straits Settlements, Vol. 104. pp. 281-294.

FORT CORNWALLIS—The 11: November 1825.

THE PRESIDENT submits to the Board the following letter and enclosure from the Rajah of Salangore, together with the reply returned.

RAJAH OF SALANGORE.

Rajah of Salangore.

Translation

of a letter from Sultan Ibrahim, King of Salangore to the Honorable Robt. Fullerton Governor of Pulo Penang.

(After Compliments).

May my friend be informed that I have sent Pangoolu Jeram with a letter from the King of Perak for my friend's perusal. It is mentioned in the King's letter that he cannot himself settle any thing, because he has confided the discussions of all business relative to the Perak Country to the Governor of Pulo Penang and Rajah of Ligore, to whom reference must be made on all matters. If my friend desires to effect a reconciliation between the King of Perak and myself, I request my friend will take into consideration and endeavour to effect a settlement of his Debt to me. I formerly requested my friend's Agent Mr. J. Anderson to endeavour to settle this business and he said he would speak upon the subject, he also admitted that when debts were contracted, it was proper that these debts should be paid—my friend too is of course well aware of this. The King of Perak however says that he cannot settle anything, and that all business must be referred to the Governor of Pulo Penang and the Rajah of Ligore.

The amount of the King of Perak's Debt to me is 3128 Dollars as referred to in the King of Perak's letter given to my friend's Agent. Moreover, with respect to the King of Perak's letter, I have sent

Pangoolu Jeram in order that my friend may be made acquainted with its contents, and I request my friend to assist me and require the restoration of my property. If my friend does not assist me, I can demand it myself, but let not my friend then take offence and impute blame to me.

Further when my friend's Agent proceeded to Perak, I requested him to require a sight of the Accounts and engagement in the possession of the King of Perak, for there was an engagement that I should receive 6 Dollars or half the Duty on Tin, viz. 12 Dollars per Bhar, and the other half should be received by the King. Such was the engagement of the King of Perak, and as to the Country of Perak, I acquainted my friend's Agent that I had restored it to the King and all that remained was that engagement, and that whether it might be agreeable or not to white or to black men, the engagement should continue in force. But my friend is better able to judge of the nature of engagements.

I have nothing to send as a token of friendship, but present many compliments. Dated 17th Saffar 1241.

A True Translation

(Signed) JOHN ANDERSON
Malay Transr. to Govt.

Penang
3d. Nov. 1825.

Enclosure in Letter from the King of Salangore.

Translation

of a letter from the King of Perak to the King of Salangore.

The letter which my elder brother sent me by his Sons Rajah Abdullah and Rajah Ahmad duly reached me in safety, and it was received in the customary form according to ancient rules. I carefully perused the letter from my elder brother and fully comprehend every particle of its contents. I cannot however settle any business, for everything has been referred to the Governor of Pulo Penang and Rajah of Ligore. If therefore my elder Brother has anything further to discuss respecting the Perak Country let him apply to the Governor of Pulo Penang and the Rajah of Ligore. Such is the case.

Moreover Mr. John Anderson on his return from Salangore stopped at Perak and had a meeting with me, and he shewed me the engagement entered into with my elder Brother, the purport of which I fully comprehend. I cannot settle any business myself, for an engagement has been made between the Governor of Pulo Penang and the Rajah of Ligore, and I cannot without their approval do anything. Such are the circumstances which my elder Brother can consider.

Dated 7th day of Saffar 1241.

A True Translation

JOHN ANDERSON

Malay Transr. to Govt.

Penang
3d. Novr. 1825.

To the Rajah of Salangore.

TO THE RAJAH OF SALANGORE.

I have received my friend's letter of the 17 Saffar. It is my anxious desire to settle all disputes and differences between my friend and the Rajah of Perak, but it is impossible for me to make any arrangement for that purpose without knowing the particulars on both sides. I request from my friend an Account of the particulars of the debt due him by the Rajah of Perak to the amount of 3128 Drs. . Just debts it is proper should be paid. I shall require from the Rajah an explanation of the cause why the settlement is not made. As to the engagement to pay 6 Dollars for every Bhar of Tin, I request my friend will send a Copy of that Engagement, in order that I may know the circumstances under which it was made. My friend may be assured that everything will be done that can be done to adjust differences, but much trouble and confusion will arise if my friend interferes himself with Perak at present.

(Signed) R. FULLERTON

Rajah of Salangore to Malay Translator.

RAJAH OF SALANGORE to MALAY TRANSLATOR.

Translation

of a letter from Sultan Ibrahim King of Salangore to Mr. John Anderson, late Agent to Perak and Salangore.

After Compliments.

I have sent Pangoolu Jeram with a letter from the King of Perak for my friend's perusal, and he will observe what is therein written. It is stated in the King of Perak's letter that he cannot settle any business, for he has referred everything to the Governor of Pulo Penang and Rajah of Ligore; and that anything connected with the Country of Perak must be submitted to them. Such is his communication. If my friend wishes to adjust matters between me and the King of Perak, let my friend endeavour to effect a settlement of my debt. I formerly mentioned this to my friend and requested him to negotiate relative to the debt, and my friend admitted that when debts are contracted, it is proper that they should be liquidated and that the Creditor should receive the amount of his dues, but my friend is better able to judge. The King of Perak now says he can settle nothing, but that he has transferred the consideration of all affairs to the Governor of Pulo Penang and Rajah of Ligore. The King of Perak's debt to me amounts to Spanish Dollars 3128, and his letter I gave to my friend.

Moreover, I now send Pangoolu Jeram with the King of Perak's letter, so that my friend may be informed of its contents, and I request my friend to assist in requiring the restoration of my property. If my friend does not assist me by demanding this, I can do it myself, but do not let this be

considered an offence on my part towards my friend. Farther when my friend was about to depart for Perak I requested him to require a sight of the Accounts and engagement in the possession of the King of Perak. In that Engagement it was stated that I should receive half the Duty of 12 Dollars per Bhar on Tin, vizt. 6 Dollars per Bhar, and that 6 Dollars should be retained by him. Such was my engagement with the King of Perak. I also told my friend that I had restored the Country of Perak to the King, and that the engagement made should be observed, whether agreeable to white or black people, but my friend is fully acquainted with all the circumstances respecting that engagement. I have nothing to offer as a token of friendship, but many compliments. I do not interfere in the affairs of the Perak Country, I merely wish to obtain a settlement of my debt with the King of Perak.

Dated 17th Saffar 1241.

Penang
3d. Novr. 1825.

A True Translation

(Signed) JOHN ANDERSON
Malay Transr. to Govt.

Rajah of Perak to the Malay Transr.

READ a letter from the Rajah of Perak to the Translator, requesting a supply of rice.

RAJAH OF PERAK to the MALAY TRANSLATOR.

Translation

of a letter from the Rajah of Perak to J. Anderson, late Agent to Perak and Salangore.

After Compliments.

I send this letter to my friend to make him informed of my present circumstances. After my friend's return to Pulo Penang, there arrived two letters from the King of Salangore, in which he referred to some debts of mine. This I make known to my friend, for I have mentioned everything to him. As to Debts, I have not myself incurred any, it is only some claims which he transferred to me, and I have not yet collected them, but he now requires the amount from me. My friend is better able to judge, what may be proper under these circumstances. I have transferred everything to the determination of the Governor of Pulo Penang. Moreover as to the King of Salangore's letters above alluded to, I have replied that I have referred to the Governor of Pulo Penang, such is the case, and whatever may be for me to perform must be decided by the Governor of Pulo Penang, whatever he desires that will I comply with.

Dated 14 / Rabialawal 1241, Sunday.

Penang
3d. November 1825.

A True Translation

(Signed) JOHN ANDERSON
Malay Transr. to Govt.

RAJAH OF KEDAH.

Translation

of a letter from the Ex Rajah of Kedah to the Honorable Robert Fullerton Esquire Governor of Pulo Penang.

(After Compliments.)

The letter which my friend sent me has reached me in safety, and I fully understand its contents. My friend acquaints me that the Pirates in these Straits are very numerous, and desires me to guard. I have always been dissatisfied with such wicked people. The Malays are very badly disposed although the laws and customs of the Mahometans are opposed to such proceedings, and the penalty to which such wicked persons are liable is very severe, but that they do not dread, and still they commit offence. While I am residing at Pulo Penang all the people are well aware that I cannot enforce my own Laws, and they are not much afraid. My friend has ordered me to guard in case any of my people should be concerned with or encourage these wicked people, and to prevent such proceedings on their part, but in my opinion, if they are disposed to be vicious, they will not attend to my prohibitions, because I have no power to enforce my own Laws or punish them. I therefore submit these circumstances for my friend's consideration, and if my own nearest relatives much less any of my Ryots are found to be concerned with the wicked people before mentioned, let my friend seize them and severely punish them. I shall be much pleased with such a proceeding.

Dated 16th Rabialawal 1241.

Penang
the 9. Novr. 1825.

A True Translation
JOHN ANDERSON
Malay Transr. to Govt.

Factory Records, Straits Settlements, Vol. 102. pp. 1-13.

FORT CORNWALLIS—The 16: June 1825.

AT A COUNCIL—Present

THE HONORABLE ROBERT FULLERTON

Governor—President

WILLIAM ARMSTRONG CLUBLEY Esquire

and

ROBERT IBBETSON Esquire.

Approved the Proceedings of the 10: Instant.

PUBLIC

THE following Minute by Mr. Clubley is recorded.

Minute by Mr. Clubley. 11th June 1825.

Minute BY MR CLUBLEY.

The Honorable the President's Minute of yesterday embraced so many important points, that I was quite unprepared at the moment, and during the sitting of Council, with the opinions which it would be proper for me to offer thereon. I was naturally however desirous of doing so as early as possible.

I confess that I have never entertained the belief that the Rajah of Ligore's intentions and equipments were hostilely directed against *Penang*. None of the Informations that have been received, not even the last, which is the strongest, (excepting always the portentous stories of Che Etam) have tended to create the impression that such a course of procedure would ever consist with the cautious policy of the Rajah of Ligore. The letter from Syed Jaffar's brother is the production of a disappointed man, and ought to be very cautiously received.

Having such doubts on my mind, it would be quite wrong to withhold my conscientious declaration, that I cannot concur in that part of the President's Minute which relates to the Rajah of Ligore's supposed views

against *us*. Neither can I concur in the opinion (as matters at present stand) that we are justified in destroying the Armament which the Siamese have collected at Quedah, as in that case we should be ourselves the aggressors. The Rajah of Ligore has declared, that in deference to this Government he will not move any Prows to the Southward of Quedah, without previously communicating his intention. The violation of such a promise, and the approach of his fleet towards this quarter, will alter the state of affairs. He has professed as far as man can do, both by letter and by his messengers, his pacific intentions towards this Government, which we are bound to respect so long as he respects his own professions. He has even expressed a wish to avail himself of the mediation of this Government, (which has been promised I believe) to settle the differences existing with the State of Salengore. In such a state of things how can we be justified in acting hostilely against his forces collected at Quedah, so long as they remain quietly in their Ports, however great may be the inconvenience which they occasion, or however undesirable it is undoubtedly that so large a force of Siamese should be so close upon our borders.

The letter from the Honorable the President to the Rajah of Ligore, appears to me to convey a proper representation and remonstrance against his continuing in a hostile attitude at Quedah, and I trust it may be effectual either to make him remove so large a force to a greater distance, or induce him [to] exemplify his intentions more decidedly.

(Signed) W. A. CLUBLEY

11th June 1825.

THE following Minute by the Honorable the President is recorded :—

Minute by the President. 16 June 1825.

MINUTE BY THE PRESIDENT.

I have perused Mr. Clubley's Minute of the 11th Instant, in which he expresses his utter disbelief that the hostile intentions and equipments of the Rajah of Ligore were directed against this Island; I must confess I differ entirely in opinion. A reference to the Records has convinced me that the Rajah of Ligore has all along been decidedly hostile to this Island, and no part of the Records has more strongly produced that conviction than the Minutes of Mr. Clubley himself noted in the margin. The imminent danger in which this Island would be placed if that Chief ever established a fleet and an Army on this side of the Peninsula, is fully illustrated in those Minutes, and now that the Rajah has established both, and is now mustering their whole strength for some aggressive purpose—I should have expected Mr. Clubley's long entertained belief of hostility to have been rather strengthened than removed by the existing state of things.

28th August Cons. 4th Sept. 1823. 16th Septemr. Cons: 2d October 1823.

The information derived from different quarters and various sources are to my judgment too uniform and consistent to admit of any doubt as to the original object and motives of the Armament—even the stories of Che Etam portentous as they appeared, have turned out to be true—they have proved correct as to the number of Prows, of armed men, and up to the demand of a free passage through the Harbour, have been verified in respect to the intended plans of the Rajah; the proceedings of Lowe Achong at Ligore strange as they seemed have derived confirmation from other channels. Whether after the defensive position we have assumed, the Rajah will proceed further in these plans, remains to be ascertained. As to protestations, I confess after the expressions used

by Mr. Clubley in the above noted Minutes, such are the very last grounds I should have expected to find urged in disbelief of hostility.

If Salengore had been the real object, it might easily have been effected by fifty Prows of the description given, and there certainly was nothing to prevent the Rajah from dispatching fifty or a hundred direct from Traang round the Bunting Islands without our knowing anything of the matter, or if we did know it without our having the power of stopping them, for however we might regret the subjugation of Salengore, I have always admitted that provided the attack was made without the Armament approaching too near the Islands and subjecting it to menace or danger, we had not under present circumstances any legitimate right to oppose it by actual force; but instead of the course described, the whole Armament has been collected at Quedah within a few hours sail of us, and is daily increasing. All the neighbouring Siamese Chiefs are there with their quota of Troops; such an assemblage, so unusual, can be intended only for some grand object; and as I find it altogether impossible to discover any other of adequate extent, I must suppose it to be an attack on this Island, and eventually the destruction of all our Settlements in these Straits, the accomplishment of which the Siamese have been tempted to undertake from the circumstances of the times, and the employment of so many of our Troops elsewhere.

To those who are acquainted with the extent and power of the British Empire, and the relative State of Ligore, or even of Siam, it will scarcely be conceivable that the former should even meditate an attack on a British Settlement; but we must not apply to utter ignorance reasoning deduceable only from knowledge and experience. A petty State in India would no doubt refrain from an attack of a British Post however

small, and however sure of immediate success, from the perfect knowledge and the dread of future consequences: but the Siamese Chiefs as yet know nothing of the power of the British Government; kept up in ignorance by a system of rule which prevents the truth being told; puffed up with vanity and arrogance, they can scarcely contemplate the existence of any Power but their own: our late conquests in the Burmah Country, they do not even believe, they have neither felt nor witnessed the exertion of our strength and cannot be actuated by motives which they cannot comprehend.

It is as impossible to calculate the extent of their ignorance, as to form a judgment of their probable intentions and preceedings, by reference to the usual conduct of Civilized States. Our only safe mode of proceeding is to keep on our guard, and assume as strong a ground as we can, so as to deter from attack until a more extensive and defined course of measures, Military and Political, removes entirely the source of danger. We have indeed a double difficulty to encounter, to guard ourselves against the craft and deceit of an insidious Enemy, pretending friendship, and to justify our Conduct to our Superiors who, I must admit will find it difficult to reconcile hostile intentions with such protestations of friendship. Mr. Clubley appears to deprecate any attack on the Armament at Quedah as tending to place us in the light of aggressors. I did not contemplate an immediate attack—the expression used was "the hostile "intention of the Rajah towards this Island is now "sufficiently manifest to authorize our acting against "him, should a favorable occasion present itself for the "destruction of his means of aggression."

I am sensible of the difficulties in which we are placed, and of the necessity of avoiding any act of hostility as long as we can, not only from the uncertainty as to the relative situation in which our Army

acting against Ava may be placed with the Siamese, but also in reference to the ulterior line of policy in such event to be pursued, and on which it is highly desirable in the first instance to obtain the sentiments of the Supreme Government. The period seems to be near at hand when it must be determined whether the Influence over the Malayan Peninsula is to be British or Siamese, with due regard to British Interest and the general cause of humanity I cannot but hope it will be the former, but until determined, it must be our main object to ward off the necessity of entering irrecoverably on any decided line.

It is well known that the Government of the Siamese is detested by their Malayan Subjects, the oppression and barbarities practised by them have given just cause for detestation, it is well known that those who have fallen under it would take the first opportunity of throwing off the yoke, and those who await in sullen silence the dismal prospect of impending subjection would eagerly embrace the means of saving themselves offered by direct hostility between us and the Siamese, but it would be a matter of painful regret that any precipitate act of ours should encourage hopes that may never be realized, and lead men to rise only to ensure their ultimate destruction.

Were these impediments removed, I confess I should not carry my forbearance so far as Mr. Clubley suggests. If a Native Chief builds an immense fleet by stealth, collects it within a few hours sail of us—assembles an Army at the same place, denies all satisfactory explanation, goes on with his preparations notwithstanding our remonstrance, and at the same time keeps terrifying the peaceable part of our population, and tampering with the disaffected; I think we should be perfectly justified in taking away from him the means of doing mischief, by the destruction of his fleet. "Inconvenience" is rather a mild term for the

state in which we are placed, by the vicinity of such a force; and should the menacing attitude of the Rajah of Ligore be continued after the above impediments are removed, and means are offered so as to ensure success, I certainly shall propose the destruction of his fleet.

(Signed) R. FULLERTON

16: June 1825

Factory Records, Straits Settlements, Vol. 102. pp. 28-29.

FORT CORNWALLIS—The 16 : June 1825.

ACTING RESIDENT OF MALACCA.

No. 111 ——— Service

Acting Resident of Malacca 12 June 1825.

To JOHN ANDERSON Esquire

Acting Secretary to Government

Prince of Wales Island.

Sir,

* * * * * *

2 In acknowledging the receipt of your Political Dispatch of the 26 Ultimo, I have the honor to acquaint you, that I have not as yet received from His Majesty the Rajah of Salengore any application for assistance in the expected invasion of his Country by the Siamese. That Prince is, I understand, not wholly inactive towards the defence of his Dominions, and has been employed of late in repairing his ruined fortifications, in assembling a few of the Inhabitants from the interior, and has also a fleet of some consequence in Perak, of a part of which Country he has possession at the present time. His utmost exertions will not, however, suffice to enable him to stand an attack from so powerful an Armament as that stated in the Enclosures to your letter to be assembled by the Rajah of Ligore unless he is supported by us, or by the Malays of Siack and the neighbouring Ports in Sumatra, with whom he is said to be in Correspondence on the subject. An Agent whom I dispatched to Rumbow brings me word that the Rajah and Chiefs of that Country are aware in some measure of their danger, but not so much as to make them court European protection at present.

* * * * * *

I have &c. &c. &c.

(Signed) W. S. CRACRAFT

Malacca Acting Resident

the 12 June 1825.

Factory Records, Straits Settlements, Vol. 102, pp. 130-141.

FORT CORNWALLIS—The 23 June 1825.

THE following letter to the Supreme Government dated the 10th Instant, is recorded.

To the Governor General in Council at Fort William 10 June 1825.

To

THE RIGHT HONORABLE
WILLIAM PITT LORD AMHERST
Governor General in Council
FORT WILLIAM

My Lord,

In our last Dispatch dated 14 Ultimo, we had the honor of communicating to your Lordship in Council, the preparations which were reported to be making by the Rajah of Ligore at Traang, and the Northern Ports of Quedah, the rumours which prevailed at this Settlement of his hostile intentions and the expected arrival of that Chief at Quedah.

2. We at the same time transmitted Copies of the most important information which had been received, and of the correspondence which had passed between our President and His Highness, and informed your Lordship in Council of the precautionary measures which we had adopted for checking the supposed designs of the Rajah of Ligore, and ensuring the safety and tranquillity of this Settlement.

3. We also expressed our sense of the policy of maintaining, by every possible means amicable relations with our Siamese neigbbours, but adverted to the probability of our inability to do so, and with reference to the danger which might be apprehended to the whole of our Settlements in these Straits by the establishment of a Siamese fleet, which we calculated at the number of 300 Prows, in our immediate vicinity, we suggested to your Lordship in Council the expediency of materially strengthening the Military and Marine Establishments of this Presidency, in

order that we might be enabled to repel any aggression on the part of the Siamese.

4. We now proceed to detail as briefly as possible, the proceedings which have taken place since the date of our last letter above alluded to. Having received from the Malay Translator, a report of the substance of information, derived from a person who had been frequently sent in a Diplomatic capacity by the Rajah of Ligore to the late and present Governor, and who (upon the objects for his remaining upon the Island being discovered) disclosed a variety of important particulars relative to the views and designs of the Rajah of Ligore, our President recorded a Minute (to which we solicit the particular notice of your Lordship in Council) taking a full review of former proceedings, recommending further measures of precaution, and submitting a scale of the proposed force for the security of this Island.

Examination of Che Etam, and Intercepted letter dated 15 May

Dated 18 May

5. Concurring as we did, in the views and sentiments of the President and Mr. Clubley, of the necessity of continuing a vigilant superintendance over the movements of the Rajah of Ligore's Armament, we directed the Superintendent of Point Wellesley, upon the information we had received, and under the expectation of the immediate departure of the Rajah of Ligore's fleet, to detach a Cruiser secretly to the Northward, to watch his movements.

Mr. Clubley's Minute dated 19 May.

6. The result was completely successful. The Hired Schooner Commerce reached the appointed spot, just as the fleet of the Rajah of Ligore, which has been in preparation for the last 3½ years was issuing from the Trang River. The time fixed for the departure of the fleet, the nature and extent of the Armament, the names of the Chiefs assembled and intended application by the Rajah, and several minor circumstances detailed in the information of Che Etam, have all been realized.

Report of Supt. of Point Wellesley dated 22 May and Enclosure.

Supt. of Point Wellesley 22d. and 24th May.

Letter from Rajah of Ligore to Governor dated 18 May
Do. 18 Do.
Do. 18 Do.

7. The receipt of further intelligence from the Superintendant of Point Wellesley, of the arrival of the Rajah of Ligore at Quedah and the report of that Officer's interview with His Highness, together with the arrival of Envoys and letters from that Chief (the contents and communications of which were by no means satisfactory) determined us rather to increase than relax in the precautionary measures adopted.

Govrs. Minute 23 May. Instructions to Supt. of Point Wellesley 25 May Letter to Rajah of Ligore 28 April
Do. Do. 29 Do.
Do. Do. 24 May.

8. On the recommendation of our President therefore, instructions were given to Mr. Maingy to proceed to Kedah to deliver letters to the Rajah, and to demand an explanation of the objects and destination of the large Armament which he had assembled.

9. In consequence of the return of the hired Brig Minerva from Malacca, and that Vessel being reported by the Master Attendant fully equipped and ready for service, we were enabled to dispatch the Hired Brig Felicitas to Singapore, and we availed ourselves of the opportunity of the departure of that Ship, to communicate to the Resident of Singapore and Acting Resident of Malacca the reports which we had received relative to the Siamese Armament and our proceedings in consequence.

10. A small Military party was sent on board the Minerva, and we engaged several small Vessels for temporary service. A List of these Vessels, with the number of Guns and Men on board of each, will be found in the Copy of the General Letter to the Honble. Court of Directors which is transmitted to your Lordship in Council with this Dispatch. To that letter we beg to refer also for a more particular detail of our sentiments on the important subject now under discussion.

Genl. Letter to the Hon. Court dated 2 June

11. The Superintendant of Point Wellesley having returned from Quedah on the 29 May, submitted to us a report of his negociations and interview with the Rajah of Ligore, and was also the bearer of a letter from His Highness in reply to the demand for explanation relative to his Armament, which your Lordship in Council will not fail to observe was far from satisfactory.

Supt. of Point Wellesley dated 29 May.

From the Rajah of Ligore to the Govr. dated 28 May.

12. Pending the receipt of the expected communication from the Rajah, we deemed it prudent to direct the Superintendant of Point Wellesley to give strict orders to the Commanders of the Vessels under his control, to keep vigilant watch over the movements of the Siamese fleet, and to prevent the approach to this Island of any assemblage of Prows.

13. In the interim, we received daily reports of the continued arrival of several further Squadrons of Prows from the Northward, to join the general rendezvous at Quedah and a report from the Superintendant of Point Wellesley transmitting translation of a letter from a Native Chief at Quedah, to his relative residing at Point Wellesley, tending to confirm the reports of the Rajah of Ligore's hostile designs against this Settlement.

Information of Santu 4 June. Supt. of Pt. Wellesley 7 Do. Captn. Roberts report 6 Do.

14. The intelligence submitted by Mr. Maingy appeared to be corroborative of the suspicions entertained against a certain class of the Chinese Inhabitants of this Island, of intriguing with the Rajah of Ligore, and of their intention of aiding that Chief in his ambitious views.

15. Our President laid before the Board Translations of letters from the Rajah of Ligore, brought by 5 Envoys, who had an interview with the Governor, and a subsequent conference with the Council.

Letter from Rajah of Ligore to Govr. with Enclosure 6 June Do. 6 June Do. to Malay Transr. 1 June.

16. These communications fully disclosed the

reality of the long meditated attack on Salengore, and so much of that characteristic ambition and cunning on the part of the Rajah of Ligore, and contained a request (viz: to permit his fleet to pass through this harbour) so incompatible with the safety of this Settlement, and so adverse to all rational and consistent policy, that we gave our entire concurrence to the reply of our President, which was sent to His Highness by his Envoys.

Letter to Rajah of Ligore dated 9 June.

17. We have already so frequently submitted to your Lordship in Council our sentiments respecting the danger and inexpediency of permitting the Rajah of Ligore to extend his hostile aggressions to the Southward of Quedah, of the risk to our own Settlements, consequent upon so large a fleet and force as he has at his command being established in our vicinity; of the injustice of his hostile designs against the independent Malayan State of Salengore; and have had such frequent occasion to bring to the notice of your Lordship in Council the state of apprehension and terror of the Native population of this Island; the reports of an intended attack upon this Settlement, and the manifest advantage which, in our apprehension would result from the re-establishment of the Malayan Government at Quedah, and the expulsion of the combined forces of the Rajahs of Ligore, Singora, Merdelong &c. now assembled at that place, that we consider it unnecessary to recapitulate our arguments on these heads.

18. With the certain knowledge which we now possess, however, of there being at present in the Quedah River, by the latest accounts, at least 400 Armed Prows of different sizes, of a very considerable force from the several Siamese States on the other side of the Peninsula, and of the daily assembly of men from the neighbouring States of Patani and Tringano, which are more particularly under Siamese

influence, and are bound to yield, as we have good grounds to know, an unwilling obedience; We anxiously solicit that your Lordship in Council will be pleased to increase our Military and Marine force to the extent recommended in our President's Minute of the 18th May now transmitted.

We have &c., &c., &c,

(Signed) R. FULLERTON

W. A. CLUBLEY

R. IBBETSON.

Fort Cornwallis
the 10 June 1825.

THE SECRETARY reports that the Dispatch was transmitted per the Ship Eliza.

Factory Records, Straits Settlements, Vol. 102, pp. 146-149.

FORT CORNWALLIS—The 23 June 1825.

THE PRESIDENT lays before the Board the following Translation of a letter from the Chow Pya of Ligore.

RAJAH OF LIGORE.

Rajah of Ligore 17 June 1825.

Translation of a letter from the Chow Pya of Ligore to The Honorable Robert Fullerton Esquire Governor of Pulo Penang.

(After Compliments.)

May my friend be informed that the reply which he sent to my letter by Luang Wat Akani, a Siamese from the Capital, Luang Pichei Peluppok, Kon Ahsoon, Che Hat and Che Soleymon, was received by me with joy of heart, according to the rules of friendship and regard.

With respect to what is stated in my friend's letter, desiring me to consider and send back the Armament, I wish to prepare the Land force and the Armament of Prows to return, agreeably to the wish of my friend contained in his letter, in order that the road of friendship and regard may not be destroyed, but with respect to the whole of the Prows being sent away, I must retain a few to accompany me when I return. What is now mentioned is in sincerity and with truth. Let not my friend entertain suspicion longer.

Moreover, with respect to the letter which the Rajah of Perak sent to Ligore, together with the representation from the Rajah Kechil Muda, and the Orang Kaya Besar, which I sent by Luang Wat Akani, a Siamese from the Capital, Luang Pichei Peloppok, Kon Aksoon, Che Hat and Che Soleyman, to shew my friend; when these people delivered the letters, they acquainted Mr. John Anderson, that after perusal they

were requested to be returned and brought back here; but these letters have not been returned yet; wherefore I sent Kon Aksoon and Che Soleyman to receive the letters and bring them back. Will my friend, therefore, return these two letters, and afterwards reply to this, according to the rules of friendship, that I may be informed.' This letter written on Friday 2d of the 8th Month, Year Fowl (17th June 1825.)

A True Translation

(Signed) John Anderson,
Malay Transr. to Govt.

Penang
The 19 June 1825.

NOTE.—Copies of the two papers alluded to have been retained, and the originals were to have been delivered to Nai Neem and Nai Tong Pan, two of the Ligore Envoys who have been here some time, disposing of Rice &c. which was sent with the former Envoys. A small quantity of Rice has been brought for sale by the Envoys arrived to-day. They wish to purchase Salt, as they say, for the use of the Prows about to return from Quedah to the Northward,

(Signed) J. A.

THE PRESIDENT acquaints the Board that the Malay Translator was directed to return the Papers alluded to, and to dispatch the Envoys to Quedah.

Factory Records, Straits Settlements, Vol. 102. pp. 194-197.

FORT CORNWALLIS—The 30 June 1825.

MR. CLUBLEY records the following Minute.

Minute by Mr. Clubley 27 June 1825.

MINUTE BY MR. CLUBLEY.

After a reference to the Minutes which I recorded under dates the 4. Sepr. and 2d October 1823, and to one of the 19th Ultimo, the Board surely can have no doubt of my opinions and wishes regarding the Political questions which have reference to the State of Quedah. The points whereon the Honorable the President and I have in some degree differed, relate not to that question but to those which have arisen since the period when the great alarms were excited in this Settlement, in consequence of the Siamese preparations at Trang, and which the Malay Translator first submitted to the Board in his report of the 1st Ultimo. That report was followed up by such a sweeping mass of information, collected from every quarter, and all tending to excite the same feelings, that I could not in the face of it, venture to express *publicly* my doubts, however improbable the same appeared to be in most of the particulars.

There was however a sufficient knowledge of the great Equipments and preparations by the Rajah of Ligore, and without resorting to other testimony regarding the destination of such an Armament, we had the authority of Captain Burney our Political Agent to the Siamese States that the Rajah of Ligore had determined to subjugate Salengore, and all accounts concurred in corroborating that fact. To this opinion I quite assented in my Minute of the 19th May. Such a state of things with the interest naturally attaching to the probable extension of the Siamese Power, as well as a proper jealousy attending the movements of so large a force, as was

then on the point of concentration at Quedah, imperiously required of this Government to adopt proper measures of precaution so as to give due weight to remonstrance or to oppose any hostile attempt which might be directed against this quarter.

Mr. Maingy's reports dated the 24th and 29th May, subsequently confirmed the intelligence that Salengore was the object of the Armament, and I fully considered until the President's Minute of the 10 Instant was laid before the Board, that his impression was generally to the same effect, although of course he had very probably guarded against any contingency. At the time however when the President's opinion as noted in the above Minute, was broadly stated to refer to the Rajah of Ligore's designs against this Island, connected with a proposition to act hostilely against him, circumstances had occurred which induced me as stated in my Minute of the 11th Instant to doubt the propriety of assenting thereto. In so doing I had no reference to the question of *general* and *ulterior* policy to which the President has referred, but solely to the existing circumstances at the time, giving my reasons for the same.

* * * * * *

(Signed) W. A. CLUBLEY.

27 June 1825.

Factory Records, Straits Settlements. Vol. 102, pp. 345-348.

FORT CORNWALLIS—The 21 July 1825.

AT A COUNCIL—Present

THE HONORABLE ROBERT FULLERTON

Governor—President

WILLIAM ARMSTRONG CLUBLEY Esquire

and

ROBERT IBBETSON Esquire.

Read and Approved the Proceedings of the 14 Instant.

SEPARATE.

THE PRESIDENT lays before the Board the following letter from Captain Burney, Political Agent to the Siamese States reporting his return from Calcutta.

AGENT to the SIAMESE STATES.

Ship Stanmore off Prince of
Wales Island—
8th of July 1825.

Agent to the Siamese States 8 of July 1825.

To THE HONORABLE
ROBERT FULLERTON Esquire
Governor &c. &c. &c.

HONORABLE SIR,

I do myself the honor to report my return to this Presidency, with the accompanying Dispatches from the Supreme Government; and I beg leave to enclose herewith Copies of all Official Papers which were submitted by me, or with which I was furnished at Fort William.

I have &c. &c.
(Signed) H. BURNEY Captain
Political Agent to the
Siamese States.

Mr. Secy. Swinton Fort William 13 May 1825.

MR. SECRY. SWINTON—FORT WILLIAM.

To W. Ibbetson Esquire

Secretary to the Government

Prince of Wales Island.

Secret Dept.

Sir,

I am directed to transmit to you for the information of the Honorable the Governor in Council, a copy of a letter addressed by me, under authority from the Right Honorable the Governor General in Council to Captain Burney, notifying to him the confirmation by this Government of his Appointment by the Government of Prince of Wales's Island to be Political Agent on a Mission to the Siamese States, with a Salary of Dollars One thousand per mensem.

2. The Salary of Captain Burney, and the expense of his Mission, will, of course, be placed to the debit of the Supreme Government.

I have &c. &c. &c.

(Signed) GEO. SWINTON
Secy. to the Govt.

FORT WILLIAM
the 13 May 1825.

Enclosure in the letter from Mr. Secy, Swinton at Fort William.

Copy.

To CAPTAIN BURNEY

&c. &c. &c.

Sir,

The Government of Prince of Wales Island, having in their Dispatch of the 18th January last, reported, that they had appointed you, under the discretion vested in them by the Supreme Government to be Political Agent to the Siamese States, I am now directed to acquaint you that the Right Honorable the Governor General in Council has been pleased to confirm that arrangement, and to fix your allowances at Dollars One thousand per mensem from the 8th of January last, the date on which your appointment took place.

2. I am directed to acquaint you at the same time, that with reference to the late Dispatches from the Government of Prince of Wales Island, and your able and valuable reports which accompanied them, the Governor General in Council proposes to accredit you eventually to the Court of Siam; but, on this subject, you will receive a further communication from me hereafter.

I have etc:
(Signed) GEO: SWINTON
Secy. to the Govt.

Council Chamber
13: May 1825.

(A True Copy)
(Signed) GEO: SWINTON
Secry. to the Govt.

Factory Records, Straits Settlements, Vol. 102. pp. 349-363.

FORT CORNWALLIS—The 21 July 1825.

Governor General in Council 13 May 1825.

GOVERNOR GENERAL IN COUNCIL

To

THE HONORABLE

R. FULLERTON Esquire

Governor in Council of

Prince of Wales Island.

Secret Department.

Honorable Sir,

We have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your Dispatches dated 18th January, 28th February, and 7th Ultimo, with their several Enclosures. The last mentioned Dispatch was brought by Captain Burney, who at the same time presented a Memoir, drawn up by himself, regarding the Conquered Territory on the Tenasserim Coast, and the different objects which have been contemplated by the British Government, as expedient to be pursued in its negociations with the Court of Siam. We propose in this Dispatch to communicate the views and resolutions which we have formed on the above important questions.

* * * * *

9. We have next to state to you the result of our deliberations on the subject of a Mission to the Court of Bangkok.

10. After duly weighing the sentiments and suggestions of your Honorable Board, and the additional facts and information brought to light by Captain Burney's able and interesting reports, we

have determined to furnish that Officer with Credentials as an Envoy on the part of the Right Honorable the Governor General to the Court of Siam, to be made use of eventually, or not, at the discretion of the Governor in Council of Prince of Wales Island. We have not any objection ourselves to try the experiment of a Mission to the King of Siam, but the character of the Mission must, we apprehend, be in the first instance entirely complimentary and conciliatory, as we are not prepared to hold out to the Siamese any distinct expectation of our ceding to them the Province of Tavoy or Mergui, more especially until we shall have acquired some clear and correct notion of their value, and of the degree of moral obligation attaching to us to protect their inhabitants from a Power which they dread equally with the Burmese. The Envoy therefore, if eventually deputed, must appear at Bangkok to offer the compliments of the Right Honorable the Governor General on the accession of the new King, to assure His Majesty of our friendly disposition and desire to cultivate a good understanding with the State of Siam, and to afford the fullest explanation on every point connected with the Burmah War. Should circumstances prove favorable, the Envoy will of course be empowered to combine with the above objects an endeavour to effect the desired improvement in our Commercial relations with Siam, and to secure every practicable degree of freedom and facility to our trade both in Upper and Lower Siam, as also the restoration of the King of Kedah to his territories on the terms and footing already discussed. We have so little to offer at present in the way of equivalent, that we consider it vain to hope that any advantages beyond those above specified, can be gained by negociation. Indeed, we do not very clearly perceive how the Government of Siam and the Rajah, will ever be persuaded to forego the profit which it seems they derive from the direct occupation of Kedah, unless we are prepared to consider

Tavoy or Mergui as an inducement. We have only farther to state on this subject that we have long ceased to consider Siamese co-operation in the Burman War as in any way important or desirable and we have therefore instructed Captain Burney not to include an application for such aid in his negociations further than a supply of Draft and Carriage Cattle if practicable and required. It may be explained however that it is still open to the Siamese to attack any part of the Burmese Dominions from their North Western frontier, provided it be not occupied by our Troops nor under British protection. There is another point which we wish to call to your notice, vizt. the desire expressed by the Chief of Pungah, in his intercourse with Captn. Burney, that the British Authorities should restore to Siam all Subjects of that State, who may be detained as prisoners at Tavoy Mergui or Martaban. We need scarcely observe, that we should readily assent to such a measure provided of course that the Siamese Captives are desirous themselves of returning to their Native Country, and that the Government of Siam will release all inhabitants who may have been carried away by their Officers from the Tenasserim Coast since last September.

11. With this Dispatch, we have the pleasure to
2/ forward Copies of the Provisional instructions and
3/ Credentials, which we have directed to be furnished to
4/ Captain Burney, and of the letters from the Right
5/ Honble. the Governor General to His Majesty the King of Siam, and from the Secretary to the Government in this Department to the Minister for Foreign Affairs. We desire however to leave it to your discretion to modify the Envoy's instructions, if any alterations or additions shall appear to you necessary, on his return to Penang. Captain Burney has been furnished with a large supply of Presents for eventual use, and we wish that a handsome token should be presented to the Pya of Salang or Pungah, and his

dependent Chiefs, in acknowledgement of our sense of their highly friendly and courteous demeanour towards the Political Agent on the occasion of his late visit to the Isthmus of Krow.

12. The conduct of the Rajah of Ligore towards Perak, and his manifestly hostile designs against Salengore, present questions replete with difficulty and embarrassment, and we find it impossible to lay down any precise rules for your guidance, in the absence of all communication of the sentiments of the Home Authorities, regarding the extension of the Siamese Supremacy, or rather absolute Governmen over the whole of the Malayan Peninsula, and the degree of counteraction if any, to be opposed by the British Government. Sensibly as we must feel the positive evil and inconvenience of having our Settlement at Malacca, and eventually Singapore, brought into contact with the Siamese Power, and deprived of a large part of their accustomed resources and supplies of provision, by the successive subjugation and depopulation of all the petty States in the Southern part of the Peninsula, we cannot but approve the declaration which you have already addressed to the Rajah of Ligore's Envoys on that subject, as reported in your Dispatch of the 28 February; and we authorize you to repeat that intimation more formally and directly in a letter from your President to the Address of the Rajah himself, should it appear that he persists in his project of immediately attacking Salangore. We trust, however, that as surmised by Captain Burney, the advanced stage of the season will cause the execution of the menaced aggression to be postponed for some months; and in the interval, the results of our Mission to Siam, and still more the respect for British Power, which our signal successes in the Burmah War will have impressed on the minds of all the Indo-Chinese Nations, may probably present to us the means of warding off the blow, without our being obliged

to commit ourselves to ulterior procedures, by any direct threat or prohibition. We shall defer considering the nature of the engagements which it may be incumbent on us, or expedient to recognize, as existing between the Settlement of Malacca and the petty States of Salangore and Rumbow until we are apprized of the occupation of Malacca by our Commissioners, and of the claims which may be advanced by those States.

We have &c. &c. &c.

(Signed) AMHERST

„ EDWD. PAGET

„ JOHN FENDALL

„ J. H. HARINGTON

Fort Cornwallis

13 May 1825.

Factory Records, Straits Settlements, Vol. 102, pp. 372-392.

FORT CORNWALLIS—The 21 July 1825.

Enclosure 2 in the Dispatch from the Govr. General in Council.

Copy.

To

CAPTAIN BURNEY

&c. &c. &c.

Sir,

You have already been apprized by my letter of the 13th Instant that the Governor General in Council has resolved upon accrediting you provisionally to the Court of Siam, and I have now to communicate to you certain general directions for your guidance in the event of your being deputed thither. The Government of Prince of Wales Island to which place you will return with all convenient dispatch, will furnish you with such special and additional Instructions as it may consider proper or necessary with reference to the actual state of affairs on your arrival at Penang.

2. Your Mission must be in the first instance, entirely of a complimentary and conciliatory character. You will appear at Bangkok to offer the congratulations of the Right Honorable the Governor General on the accession of the new King, to assure His Majesty of the friendly disposition of the British Government, and its desire to cultivate a good understanding with the State of Siam, and to afford the fullest explanation on every point connected with the Burmah War. You will, however, take special care to hold out no distinct expectation of our ceding the Siamese any portion of our acquisitions on the Coast of Tenasserim, bearing in mind that it is the intention of the Supreme Government, before it comes to any determination with respect to that Coast, to ascertain the precise condition of the Conquered Districts and of their inhabitants, as well as the disposition and

future views of His Majesty of Siam towards the Kingdom of Quedah, and the Commerce of British Subjects with his Territories.

3. On the subject of Siamese co-operation in the Burman War, I am directed to observe that His Lordship in Council has long ceased to consider the junction of a Siamese Army with our Troops to be in any way important or desirable: you will therefore abstain from making any propositions to the Court of Siam for such aid, although you may explain to the Ministers of Siam, that it is still open to the Siamese to attack any part of the Burmese Dominions from the North Western frontier, provided it be not occupied by our Troops, nor under British protection. During your residence at Bangkok you will keep yourself well informed, if possible, of the movements of the Siamese forces, and endeavour to prevent their approaching any quarter where our Troops are engaged, or are likely to be engaged, and you will communicate directly to Brigadier Genl. Sir Archibald Campbell the fullest information on all such points. With respect to the request made to you by the Pya of Salang that we should restore to Siam all subjects of that State who may be detained as Prisoners in any part of the Burmese Territories, you will apprize the Siamese Ministers that the British Government will readily assent to such a measure, provided that the Siamese Captives are desirous themselves of returning to their Native Country, and that the Government of Siam will release all inhabitants of the Tenasserim Coast who may have been carried away by their Officers from that Province since September last. On this subject as well as to afford you a knowledge of the intercourse which has already taken place with the Siamese Chiefs contiguous to the Coast of Tenasserim, I enclose Copies of certain Dispatches received from the British Officers in Command at Martaban, Tavoy and Mergui. I enclose also for your information Copy

of a Dispatch this day addressed to the Government of Prince of Wales Island from which you will learn the resolutions of the Supreme Government with regard to the Conquered Districts of Tavoy, Mergui and Tenasserim, as well as acquire a more particular knowledge of its sentiments concerning a Mission to Siam and the proceedings of the Chief of Ligore.

4. The points above adverted to are those to which the Governor General in Council is at present prepared to call your particular attention. You are yourself intimately acquainted with the views and wishes of the Government of Prince of Wales Island, and with all the other objects which have been contemplated by the British Government as expedient to be pursued in its negociations with the Court of Siam; and to your approved discretion, address and penetration it must be left to discover on the spot, and report for the information of the Governor General in Council how far you may be able to combine with the above cited objects of a general nature, an endeavour to effect the desired improvement in our Commercial relations with Siam, and to secure every practicable degree of freedom and facility to our trade both in Upper and Lower Siam, as also the restoration of the King of Quedah on the terms and footing pointed out by the Honble. the Governor of Penang. Should circumstances prove favorable to your protracted stay at Bangkok, it may be advisable for you to reside there during the continuance of hostilities, and until some final Settlement of the Conquered Territories can be effected, in view not only to conciliate the Court of Siam by keeping it regularly informed of the events of the War, and to endeavour to divert, if necessary its Military operations against the Burmese from the quarter in which ours are carrying on under Sir A. Campbell the Commander of the British Forces in Ava. You will endeavour also to open communications with that Officer, and with

the Commissioners who may be appointed to assume charge of the Tenasserim Districts, and to dispatch to them as well as to this and to the Government of Prince of Wales Island, early intelligence of everything that may appear important or useful, particularly as developing the views and feelings of the Court of Siam on those points, concerning which you can at present be furnished only with general instructions. Upon your reports from Bangkok must depend in a great measure the particular conclusions to which the Governor General in Council may arrive respecting those questions in which the interests of the States of Quedah and Salangore are involved, and as to the equivalent which it may be proper for us to offer in return for any advantages that Siam may be disposed to cede to us. On this head it should be your endeavour to elicit from that Court some distinct proposition which may be transmitted for the consideration of the Supreme Government through that of Prince of Wales Island, comprising such an arrangement as the Siamese may be willing to conclude with us, and as from your knowledge of the sentiments of the Governor General in Council you may conceive would be deemed advisable.

5. I transmit herewith Copies of the Credentials with which you will be furnished, and of letters which will be addressed to the King of Siam by the Right Honorable the Governor General and to Chow Pya Klang or Minister for Foreign Affairs by myself as Secretary. You will put yourself in communication with the Secretary to Government in the Persian Department, in order to obtain the Original of the Credentials and letters, and to prepare a suitable supply of the Presents enumerated in your Memoir. The Honorable the Governor of Prince of Wales Island will furnish you with such other letters to the King and Ministers at Siam, and to the subordinate Chiefs as he may deem expedient, and

you will communicate most fully with him, and apply to that Authority if eventually deputed, for whatever further aid you may require as to the Escort of Mussulman Sepoys, Medical Officer and Marine Assistant and Surveyor noticed in your Memoir, and a Vessel for carrying you to Pungah or any point on the Coast of Tenasserim whence the route to Bangkok may appear most feasible and expeditious with reference to the State of the Country during the approaching rainy Season. Should Lieutent. Moresby of the Honble. Company's Bombay Marine, and of whose qualifications and talents the Supreme Government has received very favorable reports, be at Prince of Wales Island or within the jurisdiction of that Government you are authorized to apply to him to be appointed your Assistant and Marine Surveyor.

6. It has not been deemed necessary to fix any particular allowance to you, on account of an Establishment, or to meet your Table and other incidental Expenses. You will present a Bill verified upon honor for all such disbursements, and take care to regulate them according to the strictest economy consistent with the maintenance of a creditable and suitable degree of State.

7. Having now communicated to you the instructions of Government for the guidance of your conduct on the important duty for which you have been selected, I am directed to advert more particularly to the very able and interesting Reports of your Proceedings under the orders of the Honble. the Governor in Council of Prince of Wales Island dated 8th January last, and to your Dispatches to my address of the 28th January and 3d Instant submitting a Memoir and Geographical Sketch of the Siamese States lying between Bangkok and Penang, and to express to you the sentiments of high approbation with which the Governor General in Council has remarked the ability,

judgement and zeal displayed by you in the execution of those orders, and the general intelligence and sound views manifested in the Memoir above referred to. His Lordship in Council desires me also to convey to you the thanks of Government for the Geographical Sketch which will be found very useful.

I have &c., &c.

(Signed) G. SWINTON

Secry. to the Govt.

FORT WILLIAM

13th May 1825.

A True Copy

(Signed) GEO. SWINTON

Secry. to the Govt.

Enclosure 3.

Copy.

To

CAPTAIN HENRY BURNEY

WHEREAS it has been judged proper to appoint an Envoy on the part of this Government to the Court of Siam, I William Pitt Amherst Lord Amherst Baron Amherst of Montreal in the County of Kent, one of His Britannic Majesty's Most Honorable Privy Council and Governor General of the British Possessions in India, in virtue of the Powers vested in me by the King and Parliament of Great Britain and by the East India Company, to direct and control the Political Affairs of all the British Possessions in India, relying on your fidelity, prudence and integrity, have appointed you my Public Envoy at the Court of Siam, and in that capacity to do and to transact all such business as shall be given to you in charge by me, and I hereby vest you with full powers to that effect, declaring that I will confirm whatever you may transact with His Majesty the King of Siam and his Ministers in my name and on my behalf, according to the instructions with which I have furnished or shall hereafter furnish you for that purpose.

GIVEN under my hand and the Seal of the Company at Fort William in Bengal this thirteenth day of May in the Year of our Lord One thousand eight hundred and twenty five.

(Signed) AMHERST

A True Copy

(Signed) GEO. SWINTON
Secry.

Enclosure 4.

Written 13th May 1825.

To

HIS MAJESTY

THE KING OF SIAM

THE Governor General of British India to His Majesty the King of Siam.

(After the usual Address and Compliments)

It is four years since my Predecessor in the Government of British India, The Most Noble Marquis of Hastings deputed to your Majesty's Royal Father, an Envoy, in token of the esteem and respect of the English Nation, and since that period the most friendly relations have continued to subsist between the English and Siamese Nations and between England and every other Asiatic State with exception to Ava, the insufferable insolence and unprovoked aggressions of which Power have forced the British Government to declare War against it. Your Majesty and the whole of your Majesty's Subjects must be well acquainted with the grasping and treacherous character of the Court and people of Ava, and must be sensible that no moderation or forbearance can preserve their good will, and that a resort to Arms is the only alternative for checking their restless and ambitious designs against all their neighbours. British Troops have now invaded the Burman Empire in every direction, and your Majesty will rejoice to hear that the most brilliant success has followed their operations against this Common Enemy of both States, and that Assam, Arracan, Cheduba, Ramree, Chynda Rangoon Dalla Bassein Serean Pegu Denoobew Martaban Yé Tavoy Mergui and Tenasserim have already fallen into our hands.

Since my arrival in India to undertake the high duties which the Great King of England has entrusted

to me, and particularly since the commencement of hostilities with the State of Ava, I have been most anxious to assure your Majesty of my respect and esteem, and of the sincere desire of the British Government to cultivate the most friendly relations with the Court of Siam. I directed the English Governors at Penang and Singapore to transmit to your Majesty without delay every information on the subject of the War, and the Troops and Officers of the English Army serving in Ava, early received the most peremptory orders to respect and protect the property and Subjects of Siam wherever they might be.

The time however appears to me now to have arrived, when I should depute to your Majesty's presence an Envoy for the purpose of affording your Majesty in my name more full and authentic explanation, concerning the War against Ava, and the future views of the British Government; and I have selected for this important service, Captain Henry Burney, an officer who has long resided in Eastern Countries and is well acquainted with the manners and customs of their inhabitants, and who is further intimately known to many of your Majesty's Subjects and most confidential officers, particularly to the Governors of Ligore, Salang, Tuccatong and Tuccopa, and to their respective Ministers.

Captain Burney will have the honor to tender to your Majesty my cordial congratulations on your accession to the great and renowned Throne of Siam, which it is my sincere prayer that you may long continue to occupy, dispensing favor to your own Subjects, and to all foreigners who may visit your Majesty's Dominions. Captain Burney will further personally convey to your Majesty and your Majesty's Ministers more fully and satisfactorily than could be done by Epistolary communication the assurances of the sincere disposition and desire of the

English Nation to cultivate the most amicable relations with the Siamese, and he will be enabled not only to afford your Majesty the fullest information on every point connected with the present hostilities with Ava, but to keep your Majesty's Ministers correctly informed of every future event of the War.

I confidently hope that your Majesty will graciously receive my Envoy with that frankness and cordiality which will enable him fully and unreservedly to communicate to your Majesty every explanation which you may desire to learn of my views and intentions and to send me in return a detailed account of your Majesty's wishes and sentiments. The British Government desires nothing from your Majesty, but what may serve to increase and prolong the friendship and good will which now subsist between the English and Siamese Nations. Should your Majesty's enlightened mind suggest any arrangement, by the adoption of which the trade of our respective Countries would derive an increased freedom, facility and extension, a more friendly and mutually beneficial intercourse be established and the relations between the English Government at Prince of Wales Island and your Majesty's subordinate Governors at Ligore, Singora and Merdelong be placed beyond all risk of future collision and disturbance, Captain Burney who enjoys my confidence will be authorized to receive and discuss such a proposition, and to bring it to the special notice of the British Government.

Captain Burney will have the honor to offer your Majesty in my name a few Articles the manufacture of this Country and of Europe which I trust you will deign to accept as a token of my high consideration and esteem.

A True Copy

(Signed) GEO. SWINTON
Secry. to Govt.

Enclosure 5.

(Copy.)

FROM THE SECRETARY TO THE SUPREME GOVERNMENT to the CHOW PYA KLANG or MINISTERS FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS to HIS MAJESTY THE KING OF SIAM.

Written 13th May 1825.

After Compliments.

This letter will be delivered to your Excellency by Captain Henry Burney who has been appointed by the Right Honorable the Governor General of British India as his Envoy, with instructions to proceed to the Court of Siam, in order to congratulate your Royal Master on his accession to the Throne, to assure His Majesty and all his Subjects of the sincere disposition and desire of the English Nation to cultivate the most friendly relations with the Siamese, and to offer to His Majesty and to His Majesty's Ministers full explanation on every point connected with the War in which the British Government is now engaged against Ava the ancient foe of Siam, and the common enemy at present of both States. Your Excellency will be happy to hear that the British Troops have met with the most signal success, and that they have captured already no less than thirteen of the Burmese principal Cities and Provinces.

Allow me to recommend to your Excellency's good will and friendly offices, Captn. Burney, who has been authorized to communicate fully and unreservedly to the King and Ministers at Siam, the views and intentions of the Right Honorable the Governor General, and to report in return whatever may be the wishes and sentiments of your Royal Master. Captain Burney has nothing to conceal from your Excellency, and should any arrangement be proposed to him, by the adoption of which a greater freedom and facility could be ensured to the trade of our respective Countries, a

more friendly and mutually beneficial intercourse be established between our Nations and the relations between the English Government at Prince of Wales Island and the Siamese Governors of Ligore Singora and Merdelong be placed beyond all chance of future dispute and collision, Captain Burney who enjoys the confidence of the Right Honorable the Governor General, has been authorized to receive and discuss such propositions in the most cordial and accommodating spirit, and to bring them to the special notice of his Government.

Captain Burney will present to your Excellency certain gifts in token of my respect and esteem, and I trust your Excellency will command my services at Calcutta on every occasion in which they can be rendered useful to yourself or to your Royal Master.

A True Copy

(Signed) GEO: SWINTON

Secry. to the Govt.

Factory Records, Straits Settlements, Vol. 102. pp. 430-435.

FORT CORNWALLIS—The 21 July 1825.

Copy.

To

Enclosure No. 2 in Secry. Swinton's letter of 17 June.

COMMODORE COE

or the Senior Naval Officer

Commanding at RANGOON.

Secret Dept.

SIR,

Some apprehensions being entertained at Prince of Wales Island of a hostile movement on the part of the Rajah of Ligore, who is stated to have equipped a large fleet of War Boats on the Opposite Coast and to the Northward of that Island, I am directed by the Right Honorable the Governor General in Council to request that in the event of no Ship of War having lately been detached from Rangoon to Prince of Wales Island, you will be pleased to take into your consideration the practicability of sending either one of His Majesty's Ships or one of the Honorable Company's Cruisers to that Island. It is supposed that the object of the Ligore Rajah's Armament is to make a descent on the Island for the purpose of carrying off the Ex Rajah of Quedah, who is now living under our protection, but you will be pleased to instruct the Officer who may be sent as suggested, not to act offensively against any fleet of Siamese Boats to the Northwards of Prince of Wales Island, until he shall have first communicated with the local authorities, there being reason to believe that the Armament in question has for its object not the attack of our Settlement, but of the Malay State of Salengore to the Southward.

2. The Officer who may be dispatched to Prince of Wales Island will of course be instructed to conform to the wishes of the Honorable the Governor in Council.

I have &c.

(Signed) GEO: SWINTON
Secry. to the Govt.

Fort William
17 June 1825.

A True Copy

(Signed) GEO. SWINTON
Secry. to the Govt.

AGENT to the SIAMESE STATES.

Prince of Wales Island,
14 July 1825.

To

Agent to the Siamese States 14 July 1825.

JOHN ANDERSON Esqr.
Acting Secretary to Govt.

Sir,

I beg you will do me the favor to present to the Honorable the Governor in Council the accompanying Six Copies of a Geographical Sketch of the Siamese States lying between Bangkok and Quedah, which the Surveyor General of India has had prepared at his Lithographic Press, conceiving that a Map of this description would be convenient to the Public Authorities for easy and frequent reference. I have coloured and corrected four of these Copies.

I have &c., &c.

(Signed) H. BURNEY
Political Agent to the
Siamese States.

Agent to the Siamese States.

READ a letter from Captain Burney, Political Agent to the Siamese States, transmitting an Account Current of his Charges from the date of his Appointment, viz: the 8th January to the 30. June, amounting to Spanish Dollars 9824. 62 and exhibiting a Balance due of Spanish Dollars 5,824.62 ½.

ORDERED that the Account Current and Vouchers be forwarded to the Accountant and Auditor, with directions to examine and report upon the same,

THE PRESIDENT lays before the Board the following Translation of a letter from the Chow Pya of Ligore.

Rajah of Ligore.

RAJAH OF LIGORE.

Translation

of a letter from the Chow Pya of Ligore to the Honorable Robert Fullerton Esquire Governor of Pulo Penang.

After Compliments.

I have received my friend's letter, stating he has sent two Siamese who were on board the Prow of China Lee, which was lost. These persons have arrived at Kedah in charge of Kon Aksoon and Che Solymon, and I feel much obliged to my friend. The two Siamese who have been returned, report that there were two more Siamese saved from the Junk who are residing at the house of the Priest, but the intelligence is not certain. All their relations here are very much distressed and anxious about them, and if these persons are really at the Church residing with the priest, I beg they may be returned to their relatives.

Farther, I intend to return very soon and require some white Cloth of two or three sorts, for the purpose of making Priests' Dresses, and for the Funeral Ceremony of my Child. When Kon Aksoon and Che Solymon went before to Pulo Penang, they could not purchase Goods; wherefore, I request my friend will will kindly permit them to go and look for white Cloth and other Articles which are required and that he will let these persons go and examine the different sorts of White Cloth and bring Musters, so that such as I may think suited for the use of the Priests, I may order them to return and purchase a large

quantity of, and they may go and come without delay so that the Cloth may be procured to accompany me.

Dated Wednesday 14th of 8th Month, Year Fowl, 13th July 1825.

Penang
the 16. July 1825.

A True Translation

(Signed) JOHN ANDERSON

Malay Trans. to Govt.

NOTE. The Messengers report that 100 Prows left Kedah two days ago for Sungei Setool and the other Northerly Ports.

(Signed) J. A.

THE SECRETARY reports that on the authority of the Honorable the Governor, the Envoys were permitted to purchase without restraint the Articles required.

Factory Records, Straits Settlements. Vol. 102, pp. 473-478.

FORT CORNWALLIS—The 29 July 1825.

MERGUI 5 April 1825.

FOR the information of the Chiefs and Governors of the neighbouring Siamese Territories.

BE IT KNOWN that many depredations have been made for two months past upon the inhabitants of the Province of Mergui, who are under the protection of the British. The people have been carried off into captivity, and sent into the Siam Country. These aggressions have been continued notwithstanding that a full explanation was had on the 2d February with the Chief of the invading Force, named Perhaw Cum Kain Soon Kram, Rajah of Sampon, who was fully informed of the relation now subsisting between the Burmese of this Province, lately conquered, and now under the the protection of the British, who are determined to resist, and repel, such hostilities. Detachments from this Garrison have accordingly been sent against the Invaders, and having discovered them within the boundary of this Province, a conflict ensued, and the Siamese were driven away, with a loss of Six Armed Boats, and one hundred and twenty four Prisoners taken by the British.

These Prisoners are now in Mergui and with them has been found, a roll of the Captives, taken by the Siamese in this Province, and sent into Siam. It is reported (and it is hoped correctly) by some of the Prisoners that the Chief of the Siamese force, has no commission from his Government, authorizing him to commit these aggressions. He is therefore liable in such case to be treated as a pirate.

On the part of the British Government, the release of Captives taken by him, is claimed, and on their return to Mergui, the Prisoners in our possession will be sent back to their own Country to [be] dealt with according to their own laws.

Thus may peace and a good understanding be maintained between the parties concerned.

It is requested that this notification may be forwarded to His Majesty the King of Siam.

(Signed) W. Frith Major
Comg. the Town & Province
of Mergui.

(True Copies)

GEO. SWINTON

Secry. to the Govt.

THE PRESIDENT lays before the Board the following Translation of a letter from the Chow Piya of Ligore, and acquaints the Board, that Captain Burney was furnished by him with the following Memorandum of Instructions on proceeding to Kedah.

RAJAH OF LIGORE.

Rajah of Ligore 19 July 1825.

Translation

of a letter from the Chow Piya of Ligore to the Honorable Robert Fullerton Esquire Governor of Pulo Penang.

After Compliments.

May my friend the Governor of Pulo Penang be informed that Captain Burney sent me a letter and I have returned a reply by China Luan; everything is stated in the letter sent to Captain Burney. I dispatch this to my friend to let him know and I request that China Luan may be permitted to return to Kedah without molestation or delay.

Dated Wednesday 19th July.

Penang
The 25 July 1825.

JOHN ANDERSON
Malay Tr. to Govt.

Memo: for Captn. Burney

MEMORANDUM FOR CAPT. BURNEY.

To any remarks the Rajah of Ligore may make on the late Armament here it will be sufficient to repeat the substance of my letter of remonstrance viz. that it is not usual for a British Government to remain inactive when a neighbouring state is making manifest and extensive preparations, that the approach of armed Vessels to this Island can never be permitted on any account, that we were always anxious to remain on peaceable terms with our neighbours, and that as it appears he has sent away a considerable number of his prows we presume he has abandoned all hostile intentions at which we rejoice.

That in respect to Salengore we wish to know the cause of the dispute and we are ready to mediate between them for the adjustment. That when disputes happen between states on each side of us we are ourselves liable to suffer. That we have therefore a direct interest in adjusting differences as far as can be done by amicable interference. In respect to the intentions of Southern subjugation everything must be said to discourage the attempt, but without going so far as to pledge ourselves to open resistance, until we hear from England, this will be a delicate part of the discussion. It is to be hoped that the increase and disposition of our Military and Marine force will of themselves deter from the attempt.

(Signed) R. FULLERTON.

25 July 1825.

Factory Records, Straits Settlements, Vol. 102. pp. 492-3.

FORT CORNWALLIS—The 29 July 1825.

Captn. Burney.

READ a letter from Captain Burney Political Agent to the Siamese States, requesting permission to deposit in the Honble. Company's Treasury, Presents brought under his charge for the proposed Mission to Siam from Calcutta.

THE SECRETARY reports the Capt. Burney's request was complied with, and Orders given to the Sub-Treasurer to receive the Packages.

Factory Records, Straits Settlements, Vol. 102, pp. 583-645.

FORT CORNWALLIS—The 4: August 1825.

THE PRESIDENT lays before the Board the following Translation of a letter from the Chow Piya of Ligore to his address.

RAJAH OF LIGORE.

Rajah of Ligore 4: August 1825.

TRANSLATION of a letter from the Chow Piya of Ligore to the Honorable Robert Fullerton Esquire Governor of Pulo Penang.

(After Compliments.)

I have to acquaint my friend that Captain Burney arrived at Kedah and I received him with pleasure as coming to discuss business of an amicable nature and to establish union and friendship. Everything has been communicated to Captain Burney and he will acquaint my friend of my desire to establish friendship and a good understanding more than formerly, so that unanimity may be prolonged.

Dated Sunday 10th of 9: Month Year Fowl, or 31st July 1825.

Penang
4: August 1825.

A True Translation

(Signed) JOHN ANDERSON
Malay Transr. to Govt.

READ the following report from Political Agent to the Siamèse States.

POLITICAL AGENT TO THE SIAMESE STATES.

Prince of Wales Island
1 : August 1825.

To,

THE HONORABLE
ROBERT FULLERTON Esquire
Governor &ca. &ca. &ca.

Political Agent to the Siamese States 1st August 1825.

Honble. Sir,

I beg leave to lay before you enclosed Basis of a Treaty upon which His Highness the Governor of Ligore and I agreed yesterday afternoon, together with the following account of the negotiations that led to this conclusion.

2. Pursuant to the communication which I had the honor to receive from you, I embarked on board the Honorable Company's Schooner Zephyr, on the Evening of the 25th Ultimo and arrived in Quedah Roads late on the Night of the following day. On the morning of the 27 : Khoon Aksoon came on board with a Message from his Master, stating that a House on Shore had been prepared for my accommodation, and inviting me to make arrangements for occupying it for a few days. I landed at 12 * P.M. and found the Governor of Ligor surrounded by 7 or 800 people engaged in witnessing a Siamese *Nautch*. He received me very politely, and, with a good deal of *tact*, desired me to notice that most of the Spectators around him consisted of Malays. After some general conversation, I stated that I would defer the discussion of business until the following day and not then interrupt His Highness's amusement,

* 2.0 p. m. in duplicate copy.

and I expressed a desire to be shown to the House allotted for my Residence which proved to be a very comfortable Bungalow close to His Highness's own House.

3. Shortly after I had retired, the Governor of Ligor's young and favorite Son paid me a visit, requesting on behalf of his Father, that I would command whatever I required to render me comfortable. At night Chiom Pyaban also called with a similar Message.

4. At 9 A.M. on the 28th His Highness summoned me to a private conference within his House. He commenced by professions of regard and esteem towards you, and by expressions of regret and surprise that he should be thought capable of meditating any attack upon Penang, or of quarrelling with the British Government, with which on the contrary, it was his sincere desire, and he was ordered by His Majesty the King of Siam, to cultivate the most friendly relations. I observed that he must own "his actions were not in conformity with his words", and referred him particularly to your Letter of the 9th of June, the contents of which I hoped he fully understood. He answered in the affirmative, but added that his intentions had been much misrepresented at Penang by fugitive Malays, Chinese and ill-disposed persons. I rejoined that you had already informed him, that you "did not attend to the reports of such persons, nor "did you judge from words, which are deceitful things, "but from facts known to yourself;" "that it is not "usual for a British Government to remain inactive "when a neighbouring state is making manifest and "extensive preparations"; that he had been told by the late Honorable Governor three years ago, and ought to have remembered, that it was contrary to the custom and Laws of European Nations for one Power to come with a large Force into the neighbourhood of another, without avowing the object of such force,

that you had a right to call upon him to explain his intentions, and had in consequence deputed Mr. Maingy to him, and that nothing could more strongly manifest your desire for remaining at peace with His Highness and of prolonging a friendly intercourse with the Siamese, than your forbearance in not availing yourself of the ample means which you possessed, and of the justificatory reason which according to the laws of European Nations he had given you, by refusing a proper explanation to your Envoy Mr. Maingy, to attack and destroy at once Quedah and the whole of His Highness's Armament. I said much more on this subject, and His Highness could only answer me by general expressions of good will towards us. Chiom Pyaban surprised me, by stating that an attack upon Penang would bring England and Bengal upon the Siamese, and that it was contrary to their interest to injure Penang, from which they received whatever useful things they required, and which he compared to a large Tree full of Fruit.

5. I then entreated His Highness to let me know, as a Friend, with what design he had collected such a force at Quedah. He replied, that I knew very well that Perak is a Siamese state; that Tuankoo Hussein of Salangore has established himself at the mouth of the principal River, and is unjustly disturbing the peace and Commerce of that Country, and that the Rajah of Salangore had come up and attacked and seized the Troops and Boats, which His Highness had sent two years ago for the protection of Perak. * I then stated that I could not admit that Perak was a Siamese State, and that "the British Government had never sanctioned his occupation of that Country" but that referring that question for future discussion, I would ask him whether Khoon Aksoon had not communicated to him several months ago, the "cautionary admonition," which you had desired, with respect to any attack which His

* See Remarks appended to the sketch of the Siamese States submitted in my Report to Government under date 28: January.

Highness might contemplate against Salangore. He answered in the negative, and Khoon Aksoon himself who was present, denied all recollection of such a Message from you. But upon my producing Mr. Secretary Ibbetson's letter to my address of the 4 of March, and stating that you had ordered a Minute of your conversation with Khoon Aksoon on the 18: of February to be taken down and forwarded to me at that very time, Khoon Aksoon acknowledged that you had intrusted such a Message to him, but that he had *forgotten* to deliver it to his Master. This of course was an untruth but when joined to some further conversation, in which I observed that you had taken great pains to explain to Khoon Aksoon the probable result of any attack upon Salangore and that it was much to be regretted that he had neglected to repeat your admonition, as such a course would have saved His Highness a great deal of unnecessary expense, I was satisfied that the true reasons why he declined avowing his intentions to Mr. Maingy were a desire of avoiding all discussion with us on the subject of Salangore, and a hope that he might anticipate any interference on our part,

6. His Highness proceeded by asking me whether he was to receive no reparation for the insult and injury which the Rajah of Salangore had committed against him, by attacking his men and seizing his Boats and property at Perak, and whether Tuankoo Hussein was to be allowed to tyrannize over the Government and Country of Perak? This gave me an opportunity of fully pointing out to His Highness the views and sentiments of the British Government as laid down in the Memorandum which you furnished to Mr. Maingy on the 25 of May, with respect to the Chief's proposed subjugation of our Southern Neighbours.

7. I began by stating that the recent re-occupation of Malacca by us naturally brought the British

Government into some degree of political relation with Perak and Salengore, between which states and the Government of Malacca there always existed a close alliance, and that hence, any hostilities on his part against those States could not possibly be regarded with indifference by us. I then explained, that "the support, protection and independence of "these Southern States are now essential to the "security, as well as the Commercial prosperity, of "the British Settlements of Penang Malacca and "Singapore," and that "any attempt at extension of "Conquest in that direction will certainly disturb the "harmony subsisting between the British and Siamese "Nations" "that the British Government is not "desirous of extended territory, and that nothing but "necessity and self defence against certain danger can "ever induce it to any hostile or aggressive measure."

8. I had with me your Memorandum to Mr. Maingy, and I had the above explanation carefully conveyed to His Higliness with the aid of three Interpreters,—one spoke English and Siamese, another Hindoostannee and Siamese, and a third Malay and Siamese.

His Highness then observed that Perak had transmitted the *Boonja Mas* to Siam and that its Rajah had directly applied to him for assistance against Tuankoo Hussein and had deputed to him at Ligore his, the Rajah's Younger Brother Tuankoo *Kechil Muda*, who is now at Quedah, waiting to return to Perak with the succour solicited; and that with respect to Salangore, he had not intended to interfere with it, and had, two years ago, when the Ligor men first went to Perak, transmitted a Complimentary letter and presents to the Rajah of Salangore, who instead of trusting to these assurances of his friendly disposition, suddenly and without any provocation, came up to Perak and seized Forty of His Highness's Boats

which were there under charge of Che Hat, his Malay Interpreter, to whom he pointed as he was then on duty before His Highness. His Highness further declared that upon your requisition as I had always believed, he had given up his intention of sending any boats to Salengore or even to Perak, but that he proposed to send by Land to the latter place aid against Tuankoo Hussein.

I rejoined that His Highness must allow, that the Malays entertained the greatest apprehension of the Siamese, and that this consideration, as well as a very natural unwillingness on the part of Salangore to admit of the approach of a conquering and formidable power had incited, and would most unquestionably again incite, the Rajah of Salangore to attack His Highness's people at Perak. I added, that as, in my opinion there was every probability of a quarrel between him and the Rajah of Salangore bringing on a quarrel between His Highness and the British Government, I would earnestly advise him as a friend not to send any force to Perak. His Highness asked whether the British Government desired to take possession of Perak. I replied, by no means, and noticing the poverty of that Country desired him to ask *Che Hat* particularly, whether there is any credit or profit to be derived from going to Perak. His Highness laughed very heartily at this reference to his discomfited Interpreter.

I then desired His Highness not to mistake the motives of our interference, which proceeded from the most benevolent and equitable considerations, and I now took an opportunity of explaining to him, as instructed by you, that "when disputes happen in "small States on each side of us, we are ourselves liable "to suffer—that we have therefore a direct interest in "adjusting differences as far as can be done by "amicable interference, and are willing to mediate

" between him and the Rajah of Salangore for an " adjustment of their dispute. "

His Highness quickly asked whether I wished to propose any plan of adjustment to him by the adoption of which he would suffer in reputation among the surrounding States—I answered no, and that I was confident the British Government would afford him not only a decent, but an advantageous pretext for withdrawing from his own Schemes and declarations, and accepting its mediation. The furnishing His Highness with such a pretext, I made the basis of all my negotiations. He rejoined, " if you are come to me " in such a spirit and are really my friend, I shall be " happy to adjust a plan of agreement with you. " I enquired why he had never taken any notice of the Draft of an agreement which Khoon Aksoon had carried to him last Year from the late Honorable Governor. He replied, because it was drawn up contrary to every Siamese form and custom, and because he had understood, when it was brought to him, that the late Honorable Governor was shortly to quit Penang. I said that Khoon Aksoon a Siamese, had in my presence, entirely approved of that Document, and that Captain Low had gone to Trang, some months after Khoon Aksoon, from the late Honorable Governor. His Highness complained that Captain Low had not divulged in the smallest degree the objects of his Mission, and that in consequence His Highness had lost the credit, of which he would have been very proud, of assisting us in Men and Boats against the Burmese. I was then asked to let him know, truly and sincerely whether the English had met with such signal success in the present War. I assured him that we had, and at his desire pointed out in a large Map, the places which we have taken and those which still remain in the Enemy's possession, and gave him a list of the whole. He then required * what were the objects of the proposed Mission to Siam: and I carefully

* "enquired" in duplicate copy.

explained to him that the Envoy was instructed to tender the congratulations of the Right Honorable the Governor General to His Majesty the King of Siam on his accession to the Throne, and to offer every explanation to the Court of Siam, regarding the nature and circumstances of the present War. His Highness appeared to suspect that there are some other concealed objects, and urged me to proceed by Water to Siam, as the Court would view with extreme jealousy the measure of a British Officer crossing any part of the Siamese territories. He offered also that if I would come in a ship to Ligore he would engage to embark in it also and to accompany me to Siam. He next endeavoured to sound me whether the British Government could be induced to make any Cessions to the Siamese on the Coast of Tenasserim, and on this subject I conceived it best to assure His Highness at once that in my opinion no such Cessions would be made. I judged from his conversation, that although he made light of our acquisitions, he feared the Court of Siam would be very happy to receive a portion of them. His Highness has of course his own views for desiring to convey a British Envoy to his Imperial Master. Anxiety to prevent our making any arrangements which should exclude all consideration of his own interests and desire to pay his Court to the King are probably his motives. But after some discussion, I thought it advantageous to endeavour to secure his interest and good will, and render him instrumental towards the accomplishment of our views with respect to Quedah; and to remove also all suspicion and jealousy on his part. I therefore proposed at last to join him at Ligore by Sea—I mentioned that I should in the first instance visit Tavoy and Mergui, and he expressed himself satisfied at such a circumstance, as it would give him an opportunity, if I had no objection and I said I had none, to send two or three of his own followers with me in order to bring him a account of those places.

At 4 P.M. His Highness observed that it was too late on that day, but that on the following morning he would commence discussing with me the points of a Treaty and shortly after I returned to my own place of residence.

At 9 o'clock on the following morning I repaired to His Highness's house, and during the whole of that day, and during the whole of the 30th and greatest part of Yesterday, we were engaged in discussing and settling the several Articles of the enclosed basis of a Treaty. It would occupy several pages were I to attempt to give a detailed Report of these negotiations, and I can therefore only submit to you, an outline of the discussions and circumstances which attended the adjustment of each Article.

I permitted the Governor of Ligore to set down each Article in the Siamese language in the first instance, and this will account for any peculiarity in the style, and for some particular Articles being specified, contrary to our etiquette, before such a general Article as the 9th. I had first termed this Instrument a preliminary Treaty, but it afterwards occurred to me that such a denominatiou is customary only when the contracting parties do not propose to continue or renew a War. The Malayan and Siamese terms however, will correspond either with the phrase Preliminary Treaty or Agreement; or Basis of a Treaty or Agreement; and I took care to settle with the Governor of Ligore, that those points which were within his own power to fulfil, should be *now* executed and that a Copy of this Document should be left with his Son the Baginda Muda, when His Highness returned to Ligore, in order that the 3d and 8th Articles particularly might continue obligatory. When the Siamese Copy of this Instrument was translated into the Malayan tongue by His Highness's Interpreters, my vigilance, temper and patience were

again exerted to fix and define the exact tenor of each Article, and at last I deemed it prudent in consequence of the peculiar structure of the Malayan language, to put down an English translation of each Article, according to the construction which the whole of our negotiations led me to give to it, and to persuade His Highness to affix his Seal to such a translation also. It would perhaps have been better to have called this Document an Agreement, but I conceived that an Instrument of such a nature, made between the Governor of Ligore and myself, would not be considered by him of such validity and importance as a Document bearing the titles of the King of Siam and the Governor General. I was right in so conceiving, for, on the last day, when I put the preamble to this Paper, His Highness took alarm and wished me to take it without his Seal, or at least with his small Seal only. The other points proposed in Mr. Crawfurd's Notes relating to the facilitation of our Trade at Bangkok, His Highness declared, can only be adjusted at the Capital.

The great objection that may be urged against such an Instrument as the enclosed is that it leads the British Government into an interference with the disputes and politics of the petty Malayan States. But I feel convinced Honorable Sir, you will be of opinion, that such an evil cannot any longer be avoided, that its inconveniences are not so great as supposed by many and that, at all events, it is not to be compared with the greater evil of permitting Siam to overrun the territories of our Southern Neighbours, to turn the inhabitants of them into Pirates, and to disturb for many Years all Native Trade. I certainly think and hope, that the terms of this Treaty cannot be very burthensome to us, and that a simple communication of our wishes to the Rajah of Salangore and to Rajah Hussein will induce them to perform whatever is required from them. But if they refuse, surely our

affording protection to Salangore against the Siamese gives us some right to dictate to it and with respect to Rajah Hussein, who has unjustly established himself at the Mouth of the Perak River, it is manifestly our interest to effect his removal, and it is only a matter of surprise, how he has been allowed by us for so long a period to interrupt the course of Trade between Perak and Penang. I look upon him as nothing more than a Pirate; and it is he, and a great many *Lanoon* Boats and Pirates, called up from the Southward by the Rajah of Salangore, for the defence of his Territory against the Siamese, that are committing all those depredations and piracies between us and Malacca of which we have lately heard so much. There is at present a very great scarcity of Rice at Perak and it would be an act of humanity to open the navigation of the River, and establish a free and secure intercourse between that Country and our Native traders.

This Treaty gives us a *right*, which we certainly did not possess before, of preventing all Siamese Troops and War Boats from proceeding to Perak or Salangore, and this I consider to be the great point gained. If you, Honorable Sir, are of opinion that you cannot interfere with respect to Perak and Salangore, until you receive the authority of the Supreme Government, I am bound to notify the same to His Highness of Ligore. He had ready, a little above Queda, a strong Detachment to proceed to Perak, and I sent a follower of mine to ascertain the fact, who returned with a Report that the Detachment consisted of at least 6000 Men, but I have long found it necessary to believe only one half of numbers estimated by a Malay. I persuaded His Highness against sending this force, which he proposed to do immediately, and on the last Night I was at Queda, His Highness summoned me at 12 o'clock, to hear the Report of two Malays, who declared that they had just arrived from

Perak with a Message from the Rajah, stating that Tuanku Hussein was committing greater depredations, and earnestly soliciting for immediate protection. Whether the scene was got up for the occasion I cannot declare but if it was, His Highness certainly played his part well. I never saw him in such a rage, he foamed, and strode about the Room, and pressed me to allow him to order the Detachment which he had ready, to march immediately to Perak. I endeavoured to pacify him and stating that I had already pointed out to him the probable consequences of his Men proceeding to Perak, and that I would not be answerable for the same, I engaged that I would come back to Queda in six days and let him know whether you would determine upon effecting the immediate removal of Tuanku Hussein from Perak. I could not discover any contradiction in the reports of the Malay passengers from Perak. They stated that they had been *Eleven* days coming by Land to Queda.

* "His Highness" in duplicate copy.

He * desired much to introduce into this Treaty a clause respecting the transmission of the *Boonga Mas* to Siam on the part of Perak, and I had much difficulty in preventing its introduction. I observed however, that if the Rajah of Perak engaged [and] was willing to send such a token of Vassalage to Siam, the British Government would not prevent it. I did not consider myself sufficiently authorized to press upon him an offer on our part to guarantee the transmission of the Boonga Mas by Perak an arrangement to which His Highness appeared averse from an unwillingness that the English should so far interfere in the affairs of that state. His Highness also wished to introduce into the 4th Article a Stipulation that we should settle the future boundary between Perak and Salangore at a River called Soongey Nibong Angoos, which is about an hour's journey to the Southward of the Burnam River. But in a conference

which I had with the Young Perak Chief and his Attendants whom the Governor of Ligore called in, I learnt that Soongey Nibong Angoos had been the boundary 50 or 60 years ago, and that the Burnam River, as I had always heard, was the last established boundary, between Salangore and Perak. I would only engage that you would negotiate with the two Rajahs for the adjustment of an equitable boundary, objecting decidedly to the mention of any particular line in the Treaty, and I obtained the accompanying Siamese Map of the two Countries with a view to your information. The Young Chief of Perak is in appearance one of the most prepossessing Malays I ever saw and I gathered from him and an *Orang Kaya Besar*, or one of the Public Officers of Perak who is with him, that the Rajah of Perak had applied to us for assistance before he sent them to the Governor of Ligore. I procured from them also a Paper in the Malayan language purporting to be a copy of the document which they conveyed from Perak to the Governor of Ligore and I learnt that there are already with the Rajah of Perak about 15 or 20 Siamese. The paper I have transmitted to the Malay Translator and although it will perhaps be considered a forgery I did not refuse to receive it when offered by the Perak Envoys.

With respect to the amount of compensation to be paid by Salangore, His Highness of Ligore produced letters and accounts showing that his loss on account of Boats, Guns and a large quantity of Tin taken at Perak exceeded a Sum of 15,000 Dollars. It was long before I could persuade him to agree to so small a sum as 2000 Dollars. I pressed him to consider that the money could be no object to so wealthy a Chief as himself, and that the payment of any sum by Salangore would tend to save His Highness's credit and character, for which purpose only he should value such a Stipulation on our part. I engaged also to represent the amount of loss strongly

to you, and if after hearing the Rajah of Salangore's own case and Statement, you could justly call upon him to pay a larger compensation, I promised that you would.

On the subject of Queda I regret that I could not bring the Governor of Ligore to any more decided arrangement. He said that he had not the power and could only promise, which he repeatedly did, to use his exertions at Bangkok in order to effect an accomplishment of our views. In the first instance he agreed to the 7th Article without proposing to proceed and report, and receive His Highness's * Orders on our Offer—but he afterwards insisted upon making the stipulation in the present form, stating that the King of Siam only could determine how and when the King of Queda should return. I hope however you will consider that the Article, even such as it is, will gain us one great point, that of introducing at Bangkok all our negotiations regarding Queda, directly through the party most interested in retaining it, and against whose opposition Mr. Crawfurd found it impossible to succeed in 1822. I am sorry to add, that His Highness spoke with a good deal of asperity against the King of Quedah and promised when I met him at Ligore to show me several letters from our Ally, written with a view to excite jealous and most unfriendly feelings against us.

* "Majesty's" in duplicate copy.

I must here avow, that the measures which you, Honble. Sir, have lately adopted for augmenting our Military and Marine force have much facilitated my negotiations with the Governor of Ligor. On one occasion I fairly told him, that a reinforcement of Troops was daily expected at Penang from Bengal, and that most probably on my Report of his conduct the question of peace or War would be decided. I will, however, in justice declare that this chief, who was charged at Penang with a design of poisoning

Captain Low at Trang last year, and of cutting me off last February, and against whom, even when I was last leaving Penang, I was warned to be on my guard, treated me with the greatest kindness and hospitality. I did not take any Escort with me on shore and after the second day my followers were allowed to visit every part of the Town of Queda, whilst a kind of Tanjong was at all hours at my service. I was permitted to go wherever I pleased, and His Highness's Sons, and His Highness himself on the last day, visited me without form or ceremony.

The Governor of Ligore confirmed the intelligence which I had received before viâ Bengal, * that the Pya of Chimpohun has been disgraced by the King of Siam for his depredations against us on the Coast of Tenasserim. On sounding His Highness as to the actual condition of the Malayan States on the East side of the Peninsula, I was assured that Calantan now transmits the *Boonga Mas* to Siam through him, and Tringano through the Pya of Singora. His Highness has no men from Chaiya with him, nor from Tuckootong, over which he told me, as I knew before, he exercises no authority whatever. I suspect Tathang, a small state under His Highness, situated on the Eastern side of the Peninsula immediately above Ligore has been mistaken for Tuckootong. Were it an object leading to any public utility I could show, Honorable Sir, that many other points of information contained in my former Reports to Government, and over which doubts have been thrown, are perfectly correct. Captain Poynton now counted 114 Boats * at Queda belonging to the Governor of Ligore, and His Highness told me that he had sent away 70. This number of 184 corresponds with what Mr. Maingy ascertained, and very exactly with that which I reported as the whole number, in the different ports of Queda, Kangar, Mecrakit, * Soongy, Berbera, and Khuntannee. By referring to Captain Robarts's * Report

* "Pungah" in duplicate Copy

* "prows" in duplicate copy.

* "Meerakit" in duplicate copy.

* "Roberts" in duplicate copy.

of the 18th May, it will be seen that the second number 100 which he mentions, applies, as he himself now explains it, to the preceding 200. He says he saw "about 200", and shortly after was boarded by some Siamese and told that there were &c. "*only 100.*" Che Etam reported 300 but on now questioning him myself, he anwered "*Buangkali*" * or *perhaps* "300"; and no one acquainted with the Malays needs to be told, how much that word "*Barangkali*" affects the accuracy of the estimation. I was certainly mistaken in supposing that the Governor of Ligore would not venture to Sea with his Boats during the present unfavorable Monsoon—but I was supported in that opinion by every nautical man here: and I may now mention, that during the last 2 months, three Junks have been lost on their passage between Queda and Penang, and our own Vessels have been losing Anchors and have been unable to lie off Queda with 70 and 80 fathoms of Cable.

"Barangkali" in duplicate copy.

I beg leave to submit a Letter which I told His Highness it would be proper for him to address you by me—and I earnestly hope you will see no cause in all that has now been done to refuse His Highness such an Answer as may gratify him.

In conclusion, I beg to bring to your particular notice, that I am under great obligations to Mr. Caunter the Superintendant of Police, who permitted a Clerk, Abraham Poons, belonging to his Department to accompany me as a Siamese and English Interpreter from whom I derived very great assistance, the Governor of Ligore himself expressing himself much pleased with him.

I have &ca.

(Signed) H. BURNEY Captain
Political Agent to the
Siamese States.

BASIS of a Treaty of Peace and friendship between His Majesty the King of Siam and the Honble. English East India Company, settled in behalf of the King of Siam by His Highness the Governor of Ligore and in behalf of the Honble. Company by Captain Henry Burney in virtue of Powers granted to him by the Right Honble. William Pitt Lord Amherst Governor General of the British Possessions in India and by the Honble. Robert Fullerton Esquire Governor of Prince of Wales Island and its Dependencies.

ARTICLE 1st

The Governor of Prince of Wales Island will effect the removal of Rajah Hussein of Salangore from Perak, and prevent him from forcibly taking away such of the inhabitants of that Country as may be unwilling to accompany him. The English nation entertains no desire to occupy Perak or to interfere with its Government

ARTICLE 2nd

The Governor of Ligore engages that no Siamese force, by land or Water, shall proceed to Perak or settle in that Country.

ARTICLE 3rd

The Governor of Ligore and Captain Burney engage that the Inhabitants of the Malayan, Siamese and British Territories shall have free trade and intercourse with Perak and with every * Country subject to the Siamese and English Nations—that all robbers, pirates, murderers, and persons imprisoned or in chains for robbery, piracy or murder, who may escape into the English or Siamese territories shall be reciprocally surrendered—that debtors thus absconding shall also be delivered up if they do not discharge the amount of their debts—and further, that there shall be free liberty of sale or purchase with respect to all supplies and provisions within the Siamese and English jurisdictions.

* "other" in duplicate copy.

ARTICLE 4th

The Government of Prince of Wales Island will

negotiate with the Rajah of Salangore to obtain payment from him to the Governor of Ligor of a sum of Sph. Dollars Two thousand (2000) for the Boats and other Property, belonging to His Highness, which the Rajah of Salangore seized at Perak, and will prevent that Rajah from disturbing the Peace of Perak and it will further negotiate with the Rajahs of Salangore and Perak for the Establishment of an equitable boundary between their respective States.

ARTICLE 5th The Governor of Ligore engages that no Siamese force, by land or Water shall proceed to Salangore.

ARTICLE 6th The Government of Prince of Wales Island will engage, if the King of Quedah be restored to his Kingdom that His Majesty shall send the Golden and Silver Flowers triennially and a sum of Spanish Dollars Four thousand (4000) annually to Ligore for the Governor of Ligor to convey to the King of Siam. The English Nation entertains no desire to interfere with the Government of Queda.

ARTICLE 7th The Governor of Ligor engages to proceed and report the subject of the preceding Article to the King of Siam, and if His Majesty approve of the same, His Highness will withdraw his men, permit the King of Queda to return to his Kingdom releasing his family and relations, and engage that no Siamese force, by land or Water, shall enter the territories of Queda.

ARTICLE 8th The Government of Prince of Wales Island and the Governor of Ligor engage to adopt severally effectual measures for the suppression of piracy within their respective jurisdictions.

ARTICLE 9th The Governor of Ligor and Captain Burney engage that a sincere and lasting friendship and good understanding shall be established and cemented between the Siamese and English Nations.

Article 10th

Captain Burney engages to forward one Copy of this Treaty to be laid before [the] Right Honble. the Governor General for His Lordship's ratification and to come himself in a Ship to Ligor within three (3) Months.

Article 11th

The Governor of Ligor engages to convey Captain Burney and another Copy of this Treaty before His Majesty the King of Siam for His Majesty's ratification as soon as Captain Burney arrives at Ligor.

Article 12th

The Governor of Ligor engages to return home within twenty (20) days with the Armament which he has brought to Queda. This * Treaty was settled when His Highness the Governor of Ligor and Captain Henry Burney met at Queda this Seventeenth day of the Eighth Month 1187 of the Siamese year Fowl, corresponding to the 31st day of July 1825 of the English mode of computation.

* New para. in dup. copy.

Seal or Chop of Punahoon
Chow Than, Chow Pya
Ligor—His Highness the
Governor of Ligor.

(Signed) HENRY BURNEY Captain
Political Agent to
the Siamese States.

TRANSLATION of a paper purporting to be a Copy of a letter from the Rajah of Perak and Chiefs to the Perak Chiefs at present residing at Kedah.

The Rajah of Perak, Rajah Muda, and Chiefs send Che Wa, a Ligor Man, Che Lang and Nei Poom, Perak people, and 30 Attendants, with the greatest haste, to travel day and night across the country ; in order to convey intelligence relative to the affairs of Perak to the Rajah Kechil Muda and the Orang Kaya Besar, who are residing at Kedah, for the purpose of being laid before the Chow Piya of Ligore.

The Rajah Muda of Salangore and his Younger brother Rajah Doola have brought an Armament to Perak and there are now 30 prows at Rantan Panjang ; many others are entering the river and they are concerting with Rajah Hussein, who resides at Sungei Bidor to commence hostilities and create a disturbance at Perak.

The Rajah of Perak, Rajah Muda and the other Chiefs of the Country are in great distress of mind ; and if the Chow Pya of Ligore who is most illustrious, does not speedily protect the Perak country, it will be ruined. With respect to Perak the Rajah trusts to remaining under the protection of the Chow Piya of Ligore and he therefore sends people to convey speedy intelligence and to request that the Chow Piya will send him protection and assistance without delay.

Farther, there is great distress in Perak at present for want of provisions, wherefore the Rajah Kechil Muda, and the Orang Kaya Besar are requested to represent this to the Chow Piya of Ligor and to beg that he will send about 30 Coyans of rice to Perak.

Moreover the Rajah Bindahara departed this life on Sunday 8th Month 25 day.

This intelligence is requested to be laid before the Chow Piya of Ligore. No date.

A true Translation

(Signed) JOHN ANDERSON

Malay Transr. to Govt.

Penang

4: August 1825.

Remarks. I observe by Captain Burney's report that he had some doubts of the authenticity of the paper of which he obtained a Copy and of which the foregoing is a translation. Any person acquainted with the style of letters written by the Chiefs of Perak or of any of the Malayan Chiefs in our neighbourhood will readily perceive that the paper is not the genuine production of the Perak Rajah, and several expressions which I have observed in almost every letter from the Chow Piya of Ligore leave no doubt in my mind that it was dictated entirely by Siamese, who are now at Perak, altho' I conceive it to be not improbable that the Rajah of Perak was informed of its contents.

The frequent use of the word *bulih*—the expressions "pinta bras mari" instead of "antar bras"—"padam niawa pada hari ahad bulan dulapan lima likur hari" which is literally "his life was extinguished on Sunday in the eighth month 25th day" are so clearly unlike those used by the Malays and so exactly resembling what we find in every letter from the Chow Piya of Ligor, that I cannot hesitate to pronounce the paper to be a fabrication, as some former papers were. There is another word frequently repeated in the Chow

Piya's letters and which I observe twice in this paper, vzt. * a parkamlagi" for *moreover*, instead of "*Lahee* *mula*" or * "*shadahan*", which is used in all Malayan correspondence. There is no date to the letter which the Malays never omit and which His Highness of Ligor frequently does.

* "sa parkarn lagi" in dup: copy.
* "Sabermula" in dup: copy.

(Signed) JOHN ANDERSON

Malay Transr. to Govt.

Penang
4 : August 1825.

UPON which the President records the following Minute.

Minute by the President 3: August 1825.

MINUTE by the PRESIDENT.

I have attentively considered the Report of Captain Burney with the Document enclosed and now proceed to record the observations I have to offer thereon as well as the measures in my judgement necessary to be immediately pursued. In respect to the Document enclosed in the Report, it may be termed a preliminary Agreement, certain Articles of which are immediately to take effect, but the ultimate Confirmation and validity to rest with the Right Honorable the Governor General on one side, His Majesty of Siam on the other. The Rajah of Ligor on his part agrees to dismiss his Armament by land and Sea, to return to Ligor within a certain time, to recall his Troops from Perak, to abstain from any attack on Salangore, requiring from us the dismission of Rajah Hussein from the place he has occupied at the Mouth of the Perak River, and recovery of compensation from the Rajah of Salangore for the injury sustained by an attack on his boats some years ago to the amount of 2000 Dollars, all of which are now stated as having been the objects of the Ligore Armament. The restoration of the King of Kedah is an ulterior arrangement, depending on the sanction of His Majesty of Siam. The recall of the Siamese from Perak, the prevention of an attack on Salangore and of their carrying their conquests down the Straits and the restoration of the King of Kedah it will be recollected were the principal objects in contemplation from any negociations we might enter into, and the arrangements now made by Captain Burney are extremely satisfactory, in so far as they afford good grounds for believing that those objects will not be opposed by the Rajah of Ligore. The written Agreement is moreover satisfactory as it has brought us to some understanding

* "that" in dup: copy.

with the* Chief, our relations with whom have, since the ejectment of the King of Kedah, been in a very uncertain and unsettled state, and has moreover paved the way for Political negociations with the Court of Siam for the introduction of questions which it has been hitherto found impracticable to bring into consideration and discussion with that Power.

In respect to the concession to be required from the Rajah of Salangore, it may be presumed that the measures pursued by that Chief have been directed principally by the imperious motive of self defence. The occupation of Perak by the Siamese brought them in contact—it was natural enough that he should look upon his own Kingdom as the next object of conquest, and guard himself against attack by anticipating his expected Enemy and destroying the Armament menacing his frontier. The state of things now complained of is ascribable to the same cause, he has heard of the preparations against him, has collected a fleet of Prows from different quarters acting under Rajah Hussein, the Crews of which are no doubt as usual on such occasions committing devastations in their neighbourhood. Indeed there can in my opinion be little doubt that the attack on the Minerva, and on several other Vessels off the Sambelongs have been made by the same fleet, collected for ultimate defence against the Ligore Armament.

These disorders and annoyance to our Trade are the natural consequences, the unavoidable result of contention between the neighbouring States, and afford us just and legitimate grounds for interfering in their adjustment. It is vain to suppose that a force of the description used on such occasions, will when once collected forego their natural habits and propensities and abstain from a course of general plunder and piracy. The removal of the fleet of Piratical Prows now assembled in the Perak River would indeed

have become an indispensible object, quite independent of the separate consideration which now induce a communication with the Rajah of Salangore but as there seems every reason to believe that the proceedings of that Chief have been dictated by motives of self defence, * it may be reasonably expected that they will be discontinued whenever the intervention of the British Government shall satisfy him that such are no longer required for his defence. It seems to me desirable, therefore, that a communication should be made to him to the following effect.

* "only" in dup: copy.

1st. The Rajah of Salangore must be fully aware of the preparations that have of late been making by the Rajah of Ligore of the assembly of a great number of Boats and of many thousand Troops —that the British Government of Prince of Wales Island not receiving any sufficient explanation of the object of such an Armament, and deeming it improper to allow such a force to approach the Island had made the proper arrangements to repel any aggression that might be made, and at the same time required from the Chief a distinct explanation of the objects he had in view—in consequence of these remonstrances the Rajah of Ligore has dismissed a great portion of his fleet, but still retains a number of Troops near Kedah. From a communication that had passed between him and Captain Burney, it appears that the object of the Armament has been to expel Rajah Hussein from Perak, who it is asserted has established himself at the Mouth of the River, is creating disturbances and exciting commotion in the Country of Perak, and also to recover compensation from the Rajah of Salangore for the damages done by the destruction of his fleet. That the British Government being desirous of preventing contention and hostilities between the adjoining states, which cannot fail to be attended with much inconvenience to themselves, has tendered its offer of mediation to compose and adjust subsisting

differences and that offer having been accepted by the Rajah of Ligore—that the Government of Prince of Wales Island therefore now requires from the Rajah of Salangore, the explanation of the causes which induced him to establish his Nephew Rajah Hussein at Perak, and of all the circumstances of the case. That in so far as his remaining there has been dictated by motives of self defence, the necessity of such no longer exists, since his removal will be accompanied by the recall of the Siamese Troops from the vicinity of that state, under the guarantee of the British Government.

In respect to the demand for compensation for the destruction of the Ligor fleet some explanation must be given before any decisive opinion can be formed by this Government. The Rajah of Salangore must be aware that he owes to the intervention of the British Government the avertence of a Siamese attack which he must have found it difficult successfully to resist, and that in the event of the immediate compliance with the requisition of the British Government to remove Rajah Hussein and to enter into a negociation for compensation to the Rajah of Ligor, the same intervention may be expected—that the compliance with such requisition will be followed by the removal of the Siamese Troops from the neighbourhood of Salangore.

Above all the Agent employed to communicate with the Rajah of Salangore should be enjoined to impress on his mind that the British Government are, on this occasion actuated entirely by an earnest desire to maintain the peace, tranquillity and good understanding amongst the neighbouring States, that they have no intention or desire to acquire territory for themselves, to interfère in the direct management, to impose on them any Commercial restraint, or to require from them any engagement inconsistent with their perfect independence and permanent stability on the existence of which the Commercial prosperity

of the British Settlements in the Straits must materially depend.

It seems only necessary on the present occasion to obtain the assent of the Rajah to such an arrangement as will enable us to perfect the reciprocal obligation required from us by the Rajah of Ligore; namely, the dismission of Rajah Hussein and his force, and the establishment of a settled boundary between the States of Perak and Salangore but should the Rajah evince a readiness to renew the Commercial Agreement entered into by Mr. Cracraft in the year 18 and to accede to the Agreement of mutual surrender of Criminals, and the prevention of Piracy such would no doubt prove desirable provisions in any arrangement to be made. They do not at present however form an essential object of the present Mission, and are not to be insisted on if it should be found that their completion is likely to delay or obstruct that of the more direct objects of communication.

The agent employed must also keep in mind that our mediation for the present is amicable only, and must abstain from any expression or declaration which would ultimately commit us to the necessity of the more severe measures of Military interference.

It must be held in mind that we are as yet proceeding only on the assertion of one of the parties in dispute, and with the view of obtaining such information from the other as may enable us to judge how far our mediation may be employed to a good and useful purpose.

In respect to Perak, some further observations occur. That State only a few years ago was independent. but in the year 18 was compelled to present the Boonga Mas to Siam. It is now provided that the Rajah of Ligore shall send no Troops to remain

in the Country, but the question of the Boonga Mas being unsettled, will probably prove a subject of future contention. In tendering, or withholding it, we may be well assured the Rajah will be guided entirely by the degree of support and assistance he may receive from us. The relief he will derive by our intervention from the direct interference and control of the Siamese will probably induce him to comply with any requisition we may make in respect to this outward mark of homage. Its presentation is only a form, and if by such the more substantial subjection by Military occupation of the Country can be averted—it may be desirable to require from the Rajah the performance of this Ceremony, exactly as contemplated in the case of Kedah, should we be fortunate enough to succeed in the restoration of that Kingdom to the state in which we found it. The Agent may therefore, on his return from Salangore, enter with the Rajah of Perak into such a negociation, submitting the result to this Government before any definitive arrangement be made, the consent and Engagement of the Rajah of Perak to the above effect would effectually remove every pretext on the part of Ligore for disturbing that Country.

In order to carry into effect the arrangements above detailed, I propose that Mr. Anderson may be directed to proceed to Salangore accompanied by the Honble. Company's Schooner Zephyr and Hired Schooner Fattal Garrib with a suitable Escort, and with Instructions drawn out in conformity with the above.

In concluding these observations I avail myself of the occasion to record the high sense I entertained* of the ability, zeal and temper displayed by Captain Burney in bringing into a course of adjustment the various points of difference so long subsisting between

"entertain" in dup: copy.

this Government and the Rajah of Ligore, the settlement of which is so essential to the maintenance of peace and good understanding with a state in our immediate vicinity.

(Signed) R. FULLERTON

3 : August 1825.

RESOLVED that the following letter be addressed to Captain Burney in reply and that Mr. Anderson be directed to hold himself in readiness to proceed with as little delay as possible to Perak and Salangore under the following Instructions.

To

CAPTAIN H. BURNEY

Political Agent to the Siamese States.

Sir,

I am directed by the Honorable the Governor in Council to acknowledge the receipt of your report of the 1st Instant detailing your proceedings on your late Mission to the Chow Piya of Ligore and to convey to you the high sense which Government entertains of the ability, zeal and temper displayed by you in bringing into a course of adjustment the various points of difference so long subsisting between this Government and the Rajah of Ligor, the settlement of which is so essential to the maintenance of peace and a good understanding with a state in our immediate vicinity

The basis of the Treaty entered into with the Chow Piya of Ligore is considered extremely satisfactory and the Honorable the Governor in Council has determined to adopt measures without delay for carrying into effect its provisions in respect to fixing a proper boundary between the States of Perak and Salangore, effecting the removal of Tuanko Hussein from Perak and obtaining from the Rajah of Salangore the pecuniary compensation required by the Rajah of Ligore. For the attainment of these important and desirable objects Mr. Anderson has been directed to proceed to Perak and Salangore with all convenient dispatch.

I am &ca.

(Signed) JOHN ANDERSON

Actg. Secry. to Govt.

Fort Cornwallis

The 6th August 1825.

To,

JOHN ANDERSON Esquire

Sir,

I am directed by the Honorable the Governor in Council to acquaint you that he has been pleased to require your services to proceed as Political Agent to the States of Perak and Salangore for the purpose of adjusting certain differences between the Chiefs of these two Countries and the Chow Piya of Ligore. The objects of your Mission are fully detailed in the Minute of the President under date the 3d Instant, the report of Captain Burney the Political Agent to the Siamese States dated 1 : Instant and the Basis of a treaty lately entered into by that Officer with the Rajah of Ligore. Copies of which documents will be furnished for your guidance.

The Master Attendant has been directed to prepare and place under your orders the H. C. Schooner Zephyr and Fattal Garib together with the two boats which were lately engaged and the Commanding Officer of the Troops has been requested to send on board these Vessels when reported ready for sea a party of a Jemadar and 25 Men from the 25th Regiment Native Infantry as an Escort. The Storekeeper will be directed to ship provisions calculated for a Month's consumption.

You will purchase such presents as you may consider necessary and will make preparations for departing on this service with as little delay as possible.

The Acting Deputy Secretary will conduct the duties of Secretary during your absence and Mr. Pattullo will be directed to assume temporary charge of the Accountant's Office.

In deputing you upon the present important duty, the Honorable the Governor in Council relies

upon your using your most strenuous exertions to effect the objects of your Mission and that you will have a proper regard to economy in the necessary expenses, consistently with efficiency.

An advance of 1500 Spanish Dollars will be made by the Sub Treasurer on your application for the purpose of making an advance to your Attendants purchasing Presents &ca. and Your Accounts will be attested upon honor.

I am

Sir,

Your most obedient Sevant

(Signed) W. E. FULLERTON
Actg. Depy. Secry. to Govt.

Fort Cornwallis
The 6 : August 1825.

ORDERED that the Commanding Officer of the Troops be directed to send on board the Honorable Company's Hired Schooner Fattal Garib a party consisting of a Jemadar, Havildar Naick and 25 Sepoys as an Escort to the Political Agent, and that the necessary communications be made to the Master Attendant to place the Honorable Company's Cruiser Zephyr and Hired Schooner Fattal Garib under the orders of Mr. Anderson, to the Storekeeper to ship one month's provisions, and to the Sub Treasurer to advance 1,500 Spanish Dollars to purchase presents and defray other charges.

ORDERED further that the Acting Deputy Secretary do assume charge of the Secretary's Office upon Mr. Anderson's departure and Mr. Pattullo be directed to act as Accountant and Auditor and Accountant General to the Court of Judicature.

FORT CORNWALLIS—The 4: January 1825.

Factory Records, Straits Settlements, Vol. 99, pp. 3-62.

READ the following letter and Enclosures from the Governor General in Council, in reply to this Government's Dispatch of the 19 October last.

GOVERNOR GENERAL IN COUNCIL.

Governor General in Council Fort William 19 Novr. 1824.

Secret Department.

To THE HONORABLE

ROBERT FULLERTON Esquire
Governor in Council
Prince of Wales Island.

Honorable Sir,

From Deputy Secretary dated 11 June No. 316.

We have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the several Dispatches from your Government of the dates noted in the margin, and to communicate in reply, an outline of our views and sentiments on the important questions to which they relate.

One Dispatch dated 13 Sepr. No. 577 from the Govr. in Council with 3 Enclosures.

One do. from the Offg. Secrety. dated 16 do. No. 599 (One Enclosure.)

One do. do. No. 601 (one Enclosure.)

One do. from the Govt. of Prince of Wales Island dated 19 Ultimo No. 689 (One Enclosure.)

2. The Dispatch addressed by our orders to Brigadier General Sir Archibald Campbell on this date (Copy of which accompanies) will apprize you in some measure of the present state of our impressions and intentions regarding the disposal our recent acquisitions on the Tenasserim Coast. Deeming the vigorous prosecution of the main objects of the Campaign, in Pegu and Ava, by the force under Sir Archibald Campbell to be decidedly the paramount consideration, and one from which our attention should not be diverted by any prospect of contingent and secondary advantages, we have approved the recall of the Detachment of His Majesty's 89th Regiment from Tavoy and Mergui, as their services cannot any longer be spared from Rangoon, notwithstanding that we have been obliged to contemplate and provide for the possible abandonment of Mergui, or its immediate

transfer unconditionally to the Siamese; as a necessary consequence, from the obvious inadequacy of the force which will then remain to Garrison both Towns.

3. The course however, which will be pursued by the Brigadier General, under the discretion left to him, and which will necessarily be in a great degree regulated by the circumstances of the moment, cannot be exactly foreseen. And as Tavoy will at all events remain for some time in our possession, We propose in this Dispatch to state our sentiments both regarding the best mode of eventually disposing of the acquisitions in question, and the equivalent to be required from the Siamese, if they are given up to that people. The difficulties which would under any circumstances environ a decision on the above questions, are further heightened at the present moment, by our want of information respecting the feelings with which the present War is viewed at the Capital of Siam, and by the report which has just reached us via Singapore of the death of the King, and the accession of an Usurper, whence may possibly result important changes in the policy and condition of that Kingdom. Neither have we received any information which can guide us to a certain conclusion, as to the degree of claim, which the Siamese consider themselves still to possess to the Provinces of Tavoy and Mergui, the first mentioned of which formed anciently, it seems, an independent Kingdom. Nor, supposing they attach great value to them, which is the more probable conclusion, do we know whether they would feel so secure of maintaining possession hereafter, without our guarantee, as to be ready to consent to any sacrifices, or even concessions, in exchange. It is not our policy to reduce materially the strength of the Burman Government, compared with that of its Eastern neighbours, and when it shall have recovered from the effects of its contest with the British Power, it is not apparent that the Siamese would have a much

better chance than formerly of keeping Tavoy and Mergui, unless under a pledge of support from us, which we could not for a moment think of granting.

4. As a general maxim, we are satisfied that all extension of our Territorial possessions and Political relations on the side of the Indo Chinese Nations, is, with reference to the peculiar character of those States, to their decided jealousy of our power and ambition, and to their proximity to China, earnestly to be deprecated, and declined as far as the course of events, and the force of Circumstances will permit. Viewing the matter in this light, even the negociation of Treaties and positive Engagements with the Siamese Government, (supposing it willing to enter into them) may be regarded as open to serious objection, lest any future violation of their conditions should impose upon us the necessity of resenting such breach of Contract.

5. Our situation, however, at Prince of Wales Island, since the expulsion from his Kingdom of the Rajah of Kedah, has brought us, spite of all our precautions and reluctance, into immediate contact with the Siamese, at one point of our possessions; and the natural desire of the British Government to secure to its Subjects some share of the valuable Commerce of Siam, and to improve its commercial relations with that Country, has already led to attempts at opening a more direct and friendly intercourse between the two States, than subsisted at any previous period. To alleviate the inconvenience attendant upon the former circumstance, to the utmost extent practicable, and to pursue the latter object in a moderate and reasonable degree seems to us all that we can now, consistently with prudence, sound policy, or the presumable views of the Home Authorities, propose

to ourselves, even in the comparatively favorable situation in which we have been placed, by the occurrence of the Burman War. The expediency of aiming at the above objects, is further recommended and justified, by former proceedings of the Supreme Government, which at one time contemplated a Mission to Siam to mediate a favorable settlement of the claims of that Court on the Rajah of Kedah, in anticipation of the embarrassment which must result from the subjugation of his country by the Siamese, and which actually deputed Mr. Crawfurd to Bangkok in 1821 to obtain concessions advantageous to the British Commerce with Siam.

6. On the whole we are disposed to think, that sooner or later we must withdraw from Tavoy as well as Mergui, that if we relinquish them in any other mode than restoring them to Ava as an Article in a future Treaty of Peace, it is desirable that we should endeavour to transfer possession to the Siamese, making at the same time the best bargain which circumstances will admit of, and lastly, that the conditions to be asked, should be chiefly those above adverted to—to which might be fairly added (as the benefit would be mutual) a stipulation for permission to trade with the Ports in question, unfettered by vexatious restraints, and generally an unrestricted trade with the interior and Eastern Coast of the Malay Peninsula, by means of those overland routes and rivers flowing into the Sea in the neighbourhood of Penang, which are explained in your Dispatch No. 689.

7. According to our conception, the Political considerations which suggest the attempt to effect a restoration of the Malay Goverment in Kedah, and its Establishment on an independent, or at least an

improved footing, resolve themselves into the following. The British Government would unquestionably gain by the measure in reputation among the Eastern States. It would remove from your immediate vicinity and from a state of actual contact with your Continental Territory, a most troublesome unaccommodating neighbour, between whom and yourselves disputes are at all times liable to break out. It would restore to you those necessary supplies of Grain &c. from which, you state, the Island of Penang now to be completely cut off. And, finally, it would put a stop to the alarming increase of Piracy, which appears to have taken place, in consequence of the flight of the Malay population, through dread of the Siamese, and their addiction to predatory courses from wanting the means of subsistence. We are scarcely yet prepared to say in what situation exactly, the Court of Siam should be asked to place the Government of Kedah, whether in one wholly Independent, or, as a salve to its pride, in a condition still feudatory, but subject to defined conditions of service, as for instance the payment of a fixed sum, or the furnishing an ascertained quantum of Supplies, for the due execution of which we might be guarantee. It would certainly be expedient also to connect with the above arrangement, the object of releasing ourselves from the Supremacy either of Kedah or Siam, as also from the obligation to pay a quit rent to the former for possession of Prince of Wales Island.

8. The nature and importance of the other subject matter for negociation with the Siamese, and that for the attainment of which, the Supreme Government in 1821 deputed a Mission to Bangkok, vizt. a fair share of freedom and Security to the Commerce of the British Nation with him, have been so ably, fully, and frequently illustrated in Mr. Crawfurd's valuable Reports, that a very brief exposition will suffice in this place. Mr. Crawfurd, whose opportunities of

forming a judgment, and abilities to avail himself of them, are of the highest description, has repeatedly expressed a strong impression of the extent and value of the trade, which Siam is capable of conducting with the British Dominions, and that there is no Asiatic Country where so decided a taste prevails for the consumption of European and Indian Manufactures, and few capable of affording such rich and varied products in return. In a Dispatch dated 31st May last, he observes "The principal obstacles which the "European trade has to contend with in Siam, consists "in the Monopolies and claims of pre-emption evinced "by Officers of the Siamese Government, and in general "in their vexatious and ignorant interference in the "details of a Cargo. These restraints and vexations "which are nearly confined to it, have during the last "two years, almost entirely driven away European "Shipping, and having thus failed to produce to the "Siamese Officers, the emoluments upon which they "were reckoning, there is ground to hope, considering "the favorable auspices under which the negotiation "will be opened, that they may be induced to relin- "quish their pernicious and useless privileges without "any serious difficulty."

9. We fully coincide in the view taken by your Government of the advantages which would result from the Siamese being prevailed on to relinquish all Claims of Supremacy over the whole of the Malayan States on the Peninsula South of Patani, but we entertain the strongest doubts of the practicability of inducing the arrogant and haughty Court of Siam, to wave pretensions so intimately affecting its pride and consequence, and we question therefore the expediency of agitating the proposition at all.

10. We must confess ourselves also decidedly adverse to any proposition for the cession to us of Junk Ceylon. Even admitting that the formation of a British

Settlement there, is calculated to produce any very material public benefits, whilst we hold Prince of Wales Island, Malacca and Singapore, we think there would be many serious objections to such a measure, for it would bring a weak and detached British position into immediate contact with the ancient Siamese territory itself, and would thus infallibly augment and multiply the existing chance and hazard of national collision and dispute,

11. With reference to the foregoing remarks we deem it proper to transmit for the information of your Honorable Board, the accompanying Copy of a Paper received some time back from the Resident at Singapore, being "Notes towards a Treaty with the Siamese." The tenor of our observations as above, will shew the extent to which we concur in Mr. Crawfurd's views and suggestions. The proposed Draft of a Treaty reflects, as we conceive, much credit on the foresight, knowledge and sagacity of that Officer, but two general observations to it present themselves to our minds, vizt. first, its direct tendency to involve the British Government in extensive and complicated relations with the Siamese; and secondly, the apparent hopelessness of persuading that arrogant and untractable Court to execute formally an Instrument, granting so many concessions and accommodations in exchange for any thing which we have to offer.

12. In concluding this part of our Despatch, we must repeat that although we have now apprized you of the present inclination of our opinions, our minds are by no means wholly resolved on the questions of a more general nature herein discussed, and we await with much anxiety the arrival of some authentic accounts of the reception which the intelligence of our War with the Burmese has met with from the Government of Siam, and the degree in which it may have

influenced their Policy and Councils; as also, whether any and what changes in the composition and temper of the Siamese Cabinet, have resulted from the rumoured death of the King—nor have we as yet determined on another point of great importance connected with the pending discussion, vizt. the channel through which negociation should be conducted, if at all, with the Siamese Court. Mr. Crawfurd, whose local knowledge, experience and other qualifications, indicate him as a person eminently fitted for the office, could not probably be spared from Singapore. There would be many advantages in the negociation being conducted by an Agent from Prince of Wales Island, acting under general authority from the Supreme Government, but proceeding immediately from, and subject to the guidance and direction of the Governor in Council of Prince of Wales Island, and to this arrangement we at present lean, supposing you are willing to undertake the trust, both from our confidence that in no hands could it be more safely reposed, and from the convenience of the comparatively centrical position of your Government, with regard to Siam, the recently conquered Provinces, and the Presidency of Fort William.

13. We have perused with much interest the reports of Lieutenant Low's Mission to Trang, and intercourse with the Officers of the Raja of Ligor's Government, together with your several Minutes on on the subject. But we regret to find it stated by the late Mr. Macalister, that the Raja of Ligor had taken personal offence at some of the expressions used by Lieutenant Low, as from all we have hitherto had before us, regarding the conduct and disposition of that Chief, we should judge him to be superior to the generality of his Countrymen, and it is our decided wish that the Officers of your Government should maintain a tone of studied courtesy and conciliation in all their communications with him.

14. The Map of Siam Laos and Cambodia constructed by Lieutenant Low, appears to us to reflect credit on his industry, research, and talents as a Siamese scholar, and to constitute a valuable accession to our scanty stock of knowledge respecting those interesting regions. We observe that you have very liberally remunerated Lieutenant Low for the labour and science employed on the above Work, by a Donation of 2000 Dollars.

15. Our views and opinions of the sort of cooperation from the Siamese, which it would be useful or desirable to obtain, during the present War, (exclusive of course of aid in Cattle, Supplies Etc.) are stated in the letter to Brigadier General Sir Archd. Campbell, and need not here be further dwelt upon.

16. It remains for us only to express our sense of the propriety of the course resolved on by the Honorable the President, with regard to the limited employment of Lieutenant Colonel Snow, as Agent to treat with the Siamese Chiefs; and to express our acknowledgments for the steps taken by the President in furnishing him with letters to those Chiefs, and the Siamese Minister for Foreign Affairs, which will doubtless have enabled him to open a friendly and beneficial intercourse with the Authorities in question, very shortly after the arrival of the British Department under Lieutenant Colonel Miles at Mergui.

We have, &c. &c.,

(Signed) AMHERST

„ EDWD. PAGET

„ JOHN FENDALL

Fort William
19 November 1824.

Enclosure I in letter from Governor General in Council.

Copy.

To

Brigadier General

SIR ARCHIBALD CAMPBELL,

K. C. B. & K. C. T. S.

Sect. Dept.

Commanding the Forces in AVA.

Sir,

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your Secret Dispatches (No. 24 and No. 2) dated the 23d and 31st Ultimo, and to communicate the following instructions and observations of the Right Honorable the Governor General in Council in reply.

2. His Lordship in Council observes, that an Expedition against Tavoy and Mergui was suggested in the instructions originally addressed to you, in contemplation of a state of things very nearly analogous to what has actually occurred at Rangoon. The main and primary objects proposed from it, were, in the event of the force under your Command being unable to advance immediately into the interior of Pegu, to distract and harass the Enemy by successive attacks, at a variety of important points, and also to avail ourselves of any resources which the Burmese Possessions on the Tenasserim Coast might be found to yield, calculated improve the situation of our Army at Rangoon. Those objects have now been well accomplished by the operations of the Detachment under Lieutenant Col. Miles. The Governor General in Council coincides therefore, in opinion with you, that it would not have been expedient to weaken your force in any essential degree for the mere purpose of retaining temporary occupation of Tavoy and Mergui, after you had drawn from them all the assistance in Grain and Cattle which they could immediately supply; and, as you considered that you could

not spare any longer the Detachment of His Majesty's 89th Regiment, you acted quite judiciously in recalling them.

3. But, His Lordship in Council, adverting to the material character of the population of those Provinces, and the unfriendly disposition manifested towards us by the people of Mergui, must necessarily entertain doubts, whether the single Native Battalion, which you have allotted for the service, will be found a sufficient Garrison for both Towns. Under these circumstances, Government desires to leave it at your discretion, as a measure of prudence, to withdraw altogether from Mergui, and to concentrate the whole Detachment of Native Troops at Tavoy which place is stated in Lieutenant Colonel Miles's letter to furnish a naturally strong and defensible position, and which may of course be further strengthened by additional works. It may be possible however to retain a nominal possession of Mergui, until it be finally determined how the place shall be disposed of, by keeping the British Flag flying, and stationing a Cruiser off the Town; and if you consider this measure feasible and expedient, you will direct such steps to be taken, in execution of it, as you think proper. Perhaps also the Son of the Rajah of Tavoy may be able to take and keep charge of Mergui with his own force.

4. The reasons for giving Tavoy the preference at the present moment, both in a Military and Political point of view over Mergui, if one of the two Posts must be relinquished, seem sufficiently obvious, though with a view to permanent possession, the latter as possessing a fine Harbour would perhaps claim superiority.

5. The Governor General in Council adheres to his original opinion, that, supposing Tavoy and

Mergui could be both held by our troops for the present, without hazard or inconvenience, the best way of eventually disposing of them would be to give them over to the Siamese, as soon as an arrangement could be negociated, in exchange for certain concessions connected with the improvement of our political and commercial relations to the Eastward, which the British Government has long been solicitous of obtaining from the Court of Siam. In the mean time, Government is desirous of receiving the most accurate information which can be collected through the Officers on the spot, regarding the Geography, resources and population of the above Provinces generally, the disposition of the inhabitants towards the Siamese Government, and the extent of claim, if any, which the Townsmen of Tavoy have established to our protection, by their conduct in the surrender of the place, and subsequent thereto. The Despatches of Lieut. Colonel Miles, I am directed to observe, written at so short a period after the occupation of Tavoy could not be sufficiently distinct and explicit on the latter point, and Government would wish to receive from him a more detailed and precise account of the behaviour of the inhabitants, and the reception which his force has continued to meet with from them. I am instructed to add, that it is by no means the desire of Government to extract a large revenue from Tavoy and Mergui during the probably short period of our holding any possessions on the Tenasserim Coast. All the Ports, therefore, should be declared Free Ports for so long a period as the British Flag may fly at them, all oppressive taxes and imposts should be discontinued, and such only exacted as do not affect injuriously the industry and prosperity of the people. The tithe or duty of 10 per Cent on the produce of the Country, as the Revenue of the State, appears to be a fair and moderate demand, and may accordingly be retained; as also the exclusive Sale of Opium and Spirits; and

there can be no objection to the Farm which you propose of the Bird's Nests, but a fair compensation must be made to the Contractor, if hereafter, in consequence of the removal of our Troops, and a consequent fresh change in the Government of the Country, we should be no longer in the situation of fulfilling our share of the Engagements.

6. A question of some difficulty and importance arises, whether, if it is determined to abandon Mergui, it may not be expedient at once to deliver it over to the Siamese, not in trust as proposed by Major Canning, but finally and unconditionally, supposing that they are willing to assume possession. There will probably be neither leisure nor opportunity for negotiation upon the subject, neither is the Government as yet prepared to say what are the precise conditions which it would be proper to demand from the Siamese. On the whole, the Governor General in Council considers it advisable to leave you a discretionary authority to give up Mergui to either of the adjoining Siamese Chiefs, called it is believed, the Rajahs of Ligore, Phoonga, and Rinnong, or to any Siamese Army which may be assembled on that part of the frontier, if the procedure appears to you to be recommended by the prospect of any commensurate advantage. Should the contemplated transfer take place, some address must be exerted in explaining to the Siamese, that the place is given up to them as a practical proof of the friendly sentiments which the British Government cherishes towards His Majesty the King of Siam, and as an earnest of the advantages which would accrue to the Siamese Nation from cooperating with us in our War against the common Enemy of both States.

7. On the above subject of cooperation it is proper to state to you, that the sort of cooperation which the Governor General in Council would consider

to be desirable from Siam, is, not that it should send its barbarous and undisciplined troops to act in conjunction with your force, or even to approach any quarter where it is likely to be employed; but, it is conceived, that the Siamese Government might materially assist us, by moving an Army from some parts of its N. W. frontier in the direction of the capital of Ava, operating of course quite independently, and thus creating a powerful, and perhaps a very effectual diversion in our favor.

8. It is here necessary to notice Lieutent. Colonel Snow's Deputation to Penang, and his proposed visit to the Capital of Siam. The course which yourself and the late Political Agent adopted for communicating fully and confidentially with the Government of Prince of Wales Island, regarding the assistance which you were anxious to obtain from Siam, is entirely approved by the Governor General in Council; and His Lordship in Council feels much indebted to the Governor of Prince of Wales Island for the judicious step taken by him of furnishing Colonel Snow with such letters as would enable him to open an amicable correspondence with the Siamese Chiefs adjoining the Tenasserim Coast, and to explain to them the motives and object of our appearing in force in that quarter. But the Governor General in Council cannot approve the design, which he understands Lieutenant Colonel Snow to have formed, of soliciting permission to proceed in person to the Siamese Court. No possible advantage could result from his appearing there in an informal, unaccredited shape, more especially as the points for negociation have not yet been finally settled. On the contrary, such a step would probably be productive of much embarrassment, and you are desired therefore to prohibit the above officer from entering the Territories of the King of Siam, without express authority from hence. Government, indeed, is not aware of any sufficient reason for

detaining Lieutenant Colonel Snow longer on the Tenasserim Coast, but it is desirable that Lieutt. Low, whose knowledge of the Siamese language may probably prove of essential utility, should continue to afford assistance to the Officer Commanding at Tavoy, if he has not returned to Prince of Wales Island, when your instructions on the subject of this Dispatch may reach the Officer in question. This part of the arrangement will, under any circumstances, be considered provisional, and subject to eventual modification, after the Supreme Government shall have communicated with that of Prince of Wales Island on the subject.

9. The Governor General in Council deems it proper to desire, that you will specially enjoin all British Officers employed on the Tenasserim Coast, to avoid cautiously any measures leading to collision and dispute with the Siamese, to adopt in any communications which they may hold with that people, the most friendly and conciliatory tone, and to seek every opportunity of allaying any jealousy, alarm, or irritation, which the appearance of a British force in that part of the Country may have excited in their minds.

10. In conclusion, I need scarcely state to you, the confident hope and expectation of the Governor General in Council, that our Troops, whilst employed in Tavoy and Mergui, as in every other part of the Enemy's dominions will sustain the national character for justice and generosity, as well as valour and Military Science, by abstaining from acts of oppression, by conducting themselves in all their dealings with fairness and equity, by respecting the Temples and Religious Institutions of the people, and by shewing invariable toleration for their national customs, prejudices, and superstitions.

I have, &ca., &ca.

(Signed) GEORGE SWINTON

Secrety. to the Govt.

FORT WILLIAM

November 19th 1824.

A True Copy

(Signed) GEORGE SWINTON

Secrety. to the Govt.

Enclosure 2 in letter from Governor General in Council.

NOTES towards a Treaty with the SIAMESE.

Article 1st

There shall be peace, friendship and good understanding for ever between the British and Siamese Nations &c. &c.

The name of the King of Siam is unknown to the greater number of his Subjects, and to every one else, and therefore cannot be inserted in a Treaty. There will also be some difficulty in binding or even in mentioning His Majesty's Heirs and Successors, for this is also a forbidden topic to the Siamese. The proper Officer of the Siamese Government to negotiate a Treaty with is the Prah Klang, or Minister of Foreign Affairs. This person's name and title are as follows: Chao Pia Prah Klang Chao Kun Kosa.

2nd.

The British Government for and on account of the considerations hereinafter specified, cedes to His Majesty the King of Siam in full Sovereignty the Provinces and Districts recently conquered by the British Arms, situated on the Bay of Bengal, known by the names of Tavoy and Mergui, and bounded by and with the exceptions specified in the next Article.

A nearer acquaintance with the Provinces from Martaban to Junkceylon will discover to us their proper names. *Meng* is the name of the Nation that inhabits them; Tavoy is Tawai, Mergui is Marit, and Tenasserim is Tanao in Siamese.

3rd.

The British Government hereby reserves to itself in full Sovereignty the Ports and Harbours of Tavoy

and Mergui with Miles of Territory adjacent to each &c. &c.

It will be impossible without local knowledge to state the actual extent of Territory which should be reserved. A considerable amount of the cultivated plains should however be kept, and it would be an obvious advantage to have a good natural boundary, if such exists.

4th.

The most complete freedom of trade and intercourse shall subsist between the British and Siamese Possessions within the Provinces of Tavoy and Mergui, and no Monopoly shall be created, or Commercial restraints imposed by either of the Contracting parties without the consent of the other.

The free Navigation of the Rivers should above all things be secured, with liberty to cut Sapan Wood in the Mountains, and free permission to work the Tin Mines. The British Ports will open an extensive Market for these two Commodities, and the Siamese Government will be consequently tempted to make Monopolies of them, according to their usual practice,

5th.

The Asiatic Subjects of either of the Contracting parties of whatever description voluntarily withdrawing from the territories of the one Power to that of the other, within the Provinces of Tavoy and Mergui, shall be permitted so to do without let or molestation, and shall not afterwards be claimed by either party.

The conditions of this Article appear to be mutual, but are virtually on the side of the British Government, and will in fact prove a powerful check to the oppression and tyranny of the Native Government,

even over their own Subjects. Without some such provision as this we must expect to be involved in constant disputes with the Siamese respecting refugees and deserters, for that Government claims the unlimited services of all its Subjects, and no individual can quit the Country without being called a Deserter. It is restricted to Natives, and therefore will enable us still to claim European Deserters.

6th.

The Subjects of either of the Contracting parties when charged with the Crime of Murder, robbery, theft, or injury accompanied by force, or when absconding on account of debt, shall be amenable to the laws and jurisdiction of the power in whose territory such offender shall have been apprehended, and the Contracting parties reciprocally pledge themselves to afford every necessary assistance and facility in bringing all such offenders to justice.

The provisions of this Article will be a remedy against any inconvenience which may arise from the last, and I trust therefore there may exist no legal objections to it.

7th.

His Majesty the King of Siam for himself, his Heirs and Successors, hereby cedes in full Sovereignty to the British Government that portion of the Territory of Quedah lying between the Rivers Crean and Marbo, these streams inclusive, and bounded to the North East by the Mountains of Patani and Calantan, including the Islands of whatever description on the Coast of the said territory to the distance of five leagues from the said Coast.

The territory here ceded on the Continent is extensive and conveniently situated. It contains wide and well-watered plains at present indeed desert,

but suited to the culture of Rice, and it opens an immediate communication with the Tin Mines within the Patani and Calantan Territories. It will be convenient to secure the entire possession of the Rivers on the frontier. The clause respecting the Islands puts us in possession of several small places, which have hitherto been very troublesome on account of the resort of Pirates to them, and it secures to us the Sovereignty of Prince of Wales Island, with an emancipation from the payment of the Stipend, without any express mention of this Island itself, which would be attended with the inconveniencee of casting a doubt upon our previous occupation of it.

8th.

The commercial and other intercourse between the British territories so ceded by His Majesty the King of Siam, and the adjacent Siamese territories including the tributary States of Perak and Patani, the Provinces of Sungora, Ligor, Junkceylon and Tennasserim, shall be regulated on the conditions and principles specified in the 4th 5th and 6th Articles of the present Treaty for the Provinces of Mergui and Tavoy.

The provisions of this Article include points, respecting which the Government of Prince of Wales Island has expressed some anxiety, and I presume to hope that the conditions of it will answer their views; yet some difficulty may be apprehended, and the whole of the objects are not worth contending for.

9th.

His Majesty the King of Siam for himself, his Heirs and Successors &c. hereby engages to permit all Ships and Vessels under the British flag to trade to the Port of Bangkok and the Kingdom of Siam, on the terms and conditions specified in the following Articles.

The Port of Bangkok is the only one at which the Siamese admit foreign trade, and perhaps at present it will not be prudent to require the extension of British Commerce to any other; although I am at the same time convinced, that the admission of our Ships into the fine Ports of Tung-yai and Chantabun on the East Coast of the Gulf would be very beneficial to our trade.

10th.

British Ships and Vessels, when they arrive in the River Menam, shall not be put to the inconvenience of landing their Small Arms and Cannon, or to be in any way dismantled, but before arriving at the City of Bangkok they shall land their Gun powder alone, which shall be taken charge of by the Officers of the Siamese Government, and returned previous to the departure of such Ship or Vessel.

British Ships are at present compelled to land their Cannon and Small Arms at a Village near the the Mouth of the River (Paknam) which is attended with inconvenience and expense. The landing of the Gun Powder will afford the same security to the Siamese Governmeut, and being a necessary regulation of Police iu the case of a Ship lying before a Town, appears unobjectionable, as far as we are concerned.

11th.

British Merchants resorting to the Port of Bangkok, shall be permitted to sell and buy freely in the open Markets and no claim of pre-emption or right of exclusive sale shall be exercised by any party to their prejudice.

This is an indispensable Article, and is fully explained in the Dispatch.

12th.

Every British Ship or Vessel visiting the Port of Bangkok for the purposes of trade, shall pay a tonnage duty of (say from 40 to 50) Ticals per Ton, to be levied on her registered tonnage, and in consideration of the said Impost she shall be exempted from the payment of all Export and Import Duties whatsoever, as well as of Anchorage or Harbour dues or duty upon Measurement.

The Duties at present paid in Bangkok by European Vessels are a duty of 8 Per Cent upon Imports; a fixed Tariff upon Exports when free trade is allowed, and which, in the example of Sugar, the Staple of Exportation, is 1½ Ticals per Pecul, a measurement Duty of 118 Ticals per fathom on the breadth of a Ship, Anchorage dues, fees &ca. The following, not a favorable case to the British Merchant, may be taken as an example. The Brig Phoenix of 232 Tons Register Measurement, imported into Siam in the year 1822 a Cargo worth in Calcutta 61,902 Rupees, and in Siam at an advance of 50 Per Cent. 74,282 Ticals. Her Port Charges, including Measurement and Anchorage Dues, and fees of all descriptions, amounted to 1,500 Ticals. An Import Cargo of 74,282 Ticals ought at 8 Per Cent. to have paid 5,942 Tieals Duties, but the actual Duties paid were were only 2,916 Ticals, a circumstance which arose from the Siamese Government having, as in all similar cases. winked at the evasion of a large portion of the Duties, and therefore, in effect, they scarcely amounted to one half the nominal Impost. The Phoenix exported besides smaller Articles, on which no Duties were paid 4,318 Peculs of fine Sugar, worth at Siam at the Time 9 Ticals per Pecul, or in all 38,762 and the Balance in Specie. On the Sugar she paid the usual Duties of 1½ Tical per Pecul or 6,477. Presents were made to the Court and Officers of Government to the extent of 1,055 Ticals, and returns

given according to custom to the amount of two-thirds of this value, leaving therefore a charge on this head of 352 Ticals. From this authentic Statement, her whole charges were 11,245 Ticals, which amounts to a Duty upon the Export and Import Cargo together and valued at 113,044—to 9 per Cent *nearly*. These are rates of charge which a British Merchant would not complain of, if not exacted vexatiously. A Duty of 48 Ticals per Ton would nearly cover the whole of it, and would be well bestowed, if it emancipated us from the annoyance of the present system. The production of a Ships Register will be a good test of her burthen, and as there are many Native Christians and other persons about the Government who can at least read the European numeral Characters, this becomes a very practicable measure.

As it is of some importance that fair and full Statements should be before the Government on this subject, I shall give another example. The English Schooner Marianna of 126 Tons burthen, which made a voyage to Siam about six months ago, paid Measurement Duties, Port Charges fees &c. 1155 Ticals. In this case, the Cargo, consisting of 7000 Muskets, were sold to the Court, and the returns received from the same quarter, on which account the Duties were mixed up with the prices taken and given, and cannot therefore well be determined. The Duty on Tonnage, independent of that on the Cargoes, appears by this case to have been 9 Ticals per Ton, whereas in the former it was less than seven, a circumstance which arose from the unequal operation of the mode of measurement adopted by the Siamese on Vessels of opposite constructions. The presents in this case amounted to 1194 Ticals, and the returns to 836, so that the real amount given was no more than 358 Ticals.

It may be right to mention that the Siamese Tical alluded to throughout, is worth One Calcutta

Sicca Rupee and one quarter nearly.

13th.

Pilotage and the usual fees of Office shall be paid by the British Vessels resorting to the Port of Bangkok, and the said Pilotage and fees shall not be raised beyond their present amount.

The Pilotage and fees here referred to are very moderate—perhaps a Schedule of them might conveniently be attached to the Treaty.

14th.

The Ships and Vessels of His Majesty the King of Siam shall be permitted to trade in the Ports of Calcutta, Madras, Bombay, and Ceylon, on the terms of the most favored Asiatic Nation.

The Siamese are not very likely to avail themselves of the Stipulation of this Article, or if they should, it can be attended by no inconvenience. Ceylon has been included, because the Siamese, from religious motives, attach much value to an intercourse with that Island, and the permission, which can produce no embarrassment, may probably be obtained without difficulty from His Majesty's Government.

15th.

Ships and Vessels of His Majesty the King of Siam shall be permitted to trade at the P. W. Island, Singapore, Mergui and Tavoy, upon the same terms and conditions in all respects, as Ships and Vessels under the British Flag are admitted to trade at the Port of Bangkok.

Siamese Vessels trade at present upon much more favorable conditions at the Ports of Penang and Singapore, than those provided for in this Article, but

occasion to have recourse to a different line of policy may at some future period be convenient, and this leaves the requisite opening. The Siamese Government cannot, too, complain, if we should impose Duties upon the exact principles of reciprocity here proposed. Even at present it will not be amiss to remind them of the superior liberality of the line of policy pursued by the British Government, and that a measure of Commercial retaliation is always within our reach when necessary.

(Signed) J. CRAWFURD

Resident.

Singapore

31 May 1824.

True Copy

(Signed) GEO. SWINTON

Secry. to the Govt.

Mr. Secy. Swinton Fort William 19 Novr. 1824.

MR SECRETARY SWINTON—FORT WILLIAM.

To

W. M. WILLIAMS Esquire
Officiating Secretary to Government

Sec: Dept: PRINCE OF WALES ISLAND.

Sir,

I am directed to transmit to you for the information of the Honorable the Governor in Council, the enclosed copy of a Minute recorded by the Right Honorable the Governor General, expressing his approbation of the zeal and industry displayed by Captain Burney in compiling a Map of the Empires of Ava, Siam, and Cochin China, aided by Mr. Gibson the Burman Envoy to the latter Country, while residing at Penang.

2. The Governor General in Council has been led to form the most favorable opinion of Captain Burney's general abilities and peculiar qualifications for employment in a Diplomatic capacity to the Eastward, and His Lordship in Council would therefore be desirous to avail himself of any opening which might present itself for appointing that Officer to a Political situation, either at Tavoy, or as an Agent to negotiate with the Siamese Court, should circumstances render either of those measures expedient. The deputation of Lieutenant Low to the former place, is of course to be considered merely as a temporary arrangement, until farther experience has been had of the course which it may be proper to pursue in that quarter.

I have &c. &c.

(Signed) GEO SWINTON
Secry. to the Govt.

Fort William
19 November 1824.

Enclosure in Mr. Secry. Swinton's letter of 19 Novr.

Fort William

5th November 1824.

GOVERNOR GENERAL

I beg leave to lay before the Board a letter addressed to me by Captain Burney, accompanying a Copy of a Map of the Empires of Ava, Siam and Cochin China. The Board is aware that Captain Burney had previously prepared and forwarded to the late Major Canning, Political Agent at Rangoon, that portion of his Map on an enlarged scale, which relates to Ava and which was considered a very valuable acquisition to our stock of Geographical information regarding that Country.

The Map which Captain Burney has now presented to me possesses a particular value, from the circumstance of its having been compiled with the assistance of Mr. Gibson, whose local knowledge enabled him to afford the most useful information, as adverted to by Captain Burney. That Officer has also contributed a very interesting Document, submitted with his letter to the Secretary in the Political Department, dated the 4: Instant, being the substance of various communications with Mr. Gibson, and exhibiting the opinions and sentiments of a person, than whom I may safely say no one is better acquainted with the real views, temper and character of the King and Court of Ava. The paper in question places, beyond a doubt, in my opinion, the fact of the schemes of aggression long meditated by the Government of Ava against our Possessions on the Eastern frontier, and corroborates, if any further proof were required, the expediency as well as the unavoidable necessity of the War in which we are now engaged.

In considering the amount of pecuniary remuneration to which Captain Burney may be entitled for the valuable Maps contributed by him, I know no

better guide to take than what has been awarded by the Government of Prince of Wales Island to Captain Low. Valuable as the geographical information collected by the latter officer relative to the Countries to the Eastward of Ava may be, I cannot consider it of such immediate importance as what has been achieved by Captain Burney, who zealously availed himself of an opportunity, such, as he conceived, might not again be offered, namely, the presence of Mr. Gibson at Penang, and devoted himself with unremitting labour to the compilation of a Map of the very Theatre of Military operations, and respecting which our information was unavoidably so imperfect.

Captain Burney has also repeatedly been employed on Political Missions to Quedah and the Raja of Ligor, in which he acquitted himself in the most creditable manner; and I should anticipate with much confidence the successful negotiation of any affair in that quarter, which might be committed to such experienced hands. I am not prepared to say that any immediate prospect of employing Captain Burney in a Political capacity to the Eastward is likely to open, though I acknowledge that our late occupation of Tavoy, and I conclude of Mergui, and the measure now under consideration of bestowing these places on the Siamese, may involve arrangements requiring the services of an Officer, possessed of Captain Burney's experience and address. In the mean time, if the Board concur with me in the opinion I have expressed of Captain Burney's labours, I would propose that a pecuniary donation, somewhat exceeding in amount that bestowed on Captain Low, be awarded to the former, viz. 5,000 Rupees.

(Signed) AMHERST

A True Copy

(Signed) GEO. SWINTON
Secry. to the Govt.

THE HONORABLE THE GOVERNOR records the following Minute.

Minute by the Governor 4 January 1825.

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR.

I have attentively considered the letter from the Supreme Government of the 19. November received on the 25. Ultimo, and I proceed to explain the views I entertain as to the measures to be pursued by this Government on the occasion. The general policy to be observed in respect to the late acquisitions on the Coast of Tenasserim, is not of course a question which we are either called upon or authorized to enter into, but it is our manifest duty to obtain, as far as possible, and submit every point of information by which the determination of that important question may be guided, and being determined, to give effect to it as far as depends on us. The first difficulty which presents itself is the want of information as to the views and sentiments of the Siamese Authorities in respect to the present War; next, as more immediately affecting the question before us, whether they conceive themselves as having any title or claim to the late Conquest—what is the nature of these claims, and what value they set on the recovery.

It was to be hoped that the late Mission of Lieutenant Low to the Raja of Ligore, would have led to some communication on these points, and I confess I entertained sanguine hopes that the immediate occupation of Tavoy and Mergui by our Troops would have opened a channel through which some knowledge of the views of the Siamese would have been drawn. Disappointed in these expectations—it still remains our first object to discover their sentiments, and for that purpose two modes of proceeding present themselves. An Embassy to Siam, as alluded to by the Supreme Government, or the opening of some channel of communication with the Siamese Chief in our

neighbourhood, to whom the management of Siamese Affairs in this quarter is confided, so as to lead to an interchange of sentiments and ultimately the opening of a Negociation on the principle stated in Mr. Crawfurd's Memorandum.

Both of these are to be considered. In respect to the first I confess I entertain strong doubts of the probability of success—for although a communication might be opened at Siam through the Prah Klang on subjects purely Commercial bearing on Duties and Customs at the Port, yet adverting to the jealousy and suspicious character of the Court of Siam, and of the whole Nation, to the overweening pride and estimation in which they hold themselves, seeming scarcely to recognize the existence of any other King or Kingdom but their own, I cannot but doubt whether they would be induced to enter into a negociation of so novel a nature as the interchange of Territory, and all the various Stipulations and Articles connected therewith.

It seems to me that before we resort to the measure of an Embassy to Siam, the other mode should, at least, be attempted, that of opening a communication with the Raja of Ligore, who is understood to be the Chief entrusted with the general superintendence of affairs in our neighbourhood. Even though this mode should prove insufficient to the completion of our negociations we have in view, yet carefully managed, it may pave the way for their more easy introduction at Siam. It may here be observed, that as all the objects of negociation refer to affairs on this side of the Peninsula—it is scarcely probable that they would be determined without some communication with the Chiefs in the vicinity, whose views and opinions might materially affect the decision—the establishment of a favorable impression with them would under any plan of proceeding be sufficiently important to require our attention. It

must indeed be a primary object to discover in what relation these Chiefs on our frontier stand to the ruling Power of Siam; whether they are Feudatories exercising a certain degree of power, or Servants of the State implicitly bound, and actually obeying the dictates of their Superiors. It may be important also to discover the weight that may attach to their opinions in respect to the ultimate decision.

To obtain this information, and make use of it when obtained, it must be our first endeavour to remove the cause of our ignorance, originating in the extreme doubt, jealousy and backwardness of communication evinced by our Siamese neighbours. It may be hoped that the conciliatory course of conduct pursued by this Government, the mutual surrender of all disturbers of the Peace, and the intercourse unavoidable on such occasions, have tended in some degree to produce the desired effect; and it is only by a most scrupulous adherence to this line that we can hope ultimately to establish mutual confidence; and as the advancement of that object, is, under present circumstances, peculiarly desirable, it may be necessary to make it the specific duty of one of our most intelligent Officers selected for the purpose.

The Robberies and Piracies committed of late on our frontier, practices, in the suppression of which the Siamese Officers evince equal anxiety, afford ample excuse for seeking a direct communication on the subject, of which advantage may now be taken. I therefore propose the Appointment of Captain Burney as a Political Agent with the Siamese Authorities in this neighbourhood. It is my intention that all communications with them pass through him, that he be instructed to endeavour to obtain an interview with the Rajah of Ligore, and take advantage of any opportunity that may offer in his communication, for attaining the main object of his Appointment, the

discovery of the views of the Siamese Government, and the cautious introduction of the points intended to be negociated.

It may be moreover presumed that the nature of the Government must be better understood by those immediately in contact with us, and that less delicacy will be required in the opening of the discussion. In selecting Capt. Burney for the Office, I am guided by his long residence on the Island, his general knowledge of the customs and habits of those with whom he is called upon to act, and by the high estimation in which his talents and abilities have generally been held. Above all, under the anticipation that an Embassy to Siam may eventually be determined on, the conduct of which in full concurrence in the opinion of the Right Honorable the Governor General in Council, it would appear to me advisable to confide to that Gentleman, under the circumstances which preclude the employment of Mr. Crawfurd on the occasion.

As one of the main objects of Captain Burney's Appointment is the obtaining of intelligence eventually useful to the Supreme Government, it will be necessary that whenever opportunity offers, and the information is of sufficient importance, that he should communicate direct with the proper Officers at Calcutta, sending to us Copies of all such communications.

(Signed) R. FULLERTON.

4 January 1825.

AGREED that Captain Burney be appointed Political Agent to the Siamese States, and that instructions in conformity with the Dispatch above recorded from the Supreme Government, and the Minute by the President be furnished for his guidance; that the Brig Jessy be forthwith prepared for proceeding on the service to Kedah, Trang, and elsewhere,

and that such other instructions be issued to facilitate the subordinate arrangements as may be required.

AGREED further that Captain Burney's expenses be paid, and with reference to his personal remuneration that it be left to the Supreme Government.

ORDERED that the Dispatches now received be replied to by the first opportunity, that the sentiments of this Government on the propositions contained therein, and in the Enclosures be communicated, and the Appointment of the Political Agent as above advised.

Lieut. Col. Snow at Tavoi 8 November 1824.

LIEUTT. COLONEL SNOW.

To

W, M. WILLIAMS, Esquire
Officiating Secretary to Government.

Sir.

1. I have the honor to report to the Honorable the Governor in Council, that I arrived at Mergui on the 13 Instant, and communicated my intention to Brigadier Miles, of my wish to open a conference with the Siamese Chiefs in the vicinity of that place, which the Brigadier decidedly objected to my doing: I consequently re-embarked on the following day, and sailed for Tavoi, from which place I detached Lieutenant Low to Brigadier General Sir Archibald Campbell's Head Quarters, with a Statement of all the circumstances which had occurred subsequent to my reaching Mergui, and requesting further orders.

2. Copy of the Correspondence which took place between myself, Brigadier Miles, and Captain Hardy the Senior Officer of the Bombay Marine. I shall hereafter have the honor of submitting to the Honorable the Governor in Council.

No. 1 and 2.

3. I herewith transmit copy of a letter from the Commander of the Forces at Rangoon with my reply, but in consequence of receiving another letter directing my early return to Rangoon, I have resolved on proceeding to that place immediately, where I conclude Lieutenant Low is detained until I arrive.

4. In consequence of the resolutions of the Supreme Government not to interfere in the affairs of Siam, I consider the powers which the Honorable the Governor in Council did me the honor to invest me, as Envoy to the Court of Siam, to be no longer in

force ; and I have only to express my regret that circumstances have not afforded me an opportunity for displaying my zeal in the service of the Government of Prince of Wales Island.

I have, &c., &c.

(Signed) EDW. W. SNOW.
Lieutt. Col. Madras Army.

TAVOI
8th November 1824.

Enclosure.

No. 1.

Head Quarters Rangoon
4th October 1824.

Sir,

I am directed by the Commander of the Forces to inform you, that in consequence of orders from the Supreme Government, imparting its wish, that the Siamese should be left entirely to themselves in forming their resolutions at the present crisis, your services to the Eastward are no longer required, and you will be pleased to return to your duty with this Expedition, should your state of health admit of your doing so.

I have, &c., &c.

(Signed) J. J. SNODGRASS
Military Secretary.

To
Lieutenant Colonel Snow
Deputy Adjutant General.

Factory Records, Straits Settlements, Vol. 99, pp. 145-154.

FORT CORNWALLIS—The 15 January 1825.

AT A COUNCIL—Present

The Honorable ROBERT FULLERTON
Governor—President
and
WILLIAM ARMSTRONG CLUBLEY Esquire.

APPROVED the Proceedings of the 4 : Instant.

PUBLIC

WITH REFERENCE to the Minute by the President and the Orders of last Council on the Political Dispatch from the Right Honorable the Governor General in Council, THE SECRETARY reports that the following Instructions were issued to Captain Burney on the 8th Instant.

Instructions to Captain Burney dated 8 January.

To

CAPTAIN H. BURNEY

Sir,

The Honorable the Governor in Council adverting to your general knowledge of the customs and habits of the Malays and Siamese, and to the high estimation in which your abilities have been held when employed heretofore under the orders of this Government, has been pleased to appoint you Political Agent to the Siamese States in the neighbourhood, and I am now directed to furnish you with the following general Instructions for your guidance, and with Copies of the Documents noted in the margin, containing an Exposition of the views and sentiments of the Supreme as well as of this Government on the different questions and objects in which the British Interests are considered to be involved in our present relation to those States and respecting which it will be your duty to collect such authentic information and

Copy of Governor Phillips's letter to the Rajah of Ligore in June 1824 with Draft of an Agreement.

Copy of a letter to the Governor General in Council dated 19 Octr. 1824.

Memorandum of Points therein referred to.

Extract of a letter from the Governor General in Council dated the 19 Novr. 1824.

undertake such personal communications with the Rajah of Ligor, and the other Chiefs in this vicinity, as may pave the way for a correct determination of those questions, and a judicious realization of those objects.

Memorandum by the Resident of Singapore in view to a Siamese Treaty.

It is evident that to your own discretion and address and to your judgement on the spot must be left the selection of the most prudent mode of fulfilling the important duty entrusted to you; but the Governor in Council desires you will in the first instance proceed to Kedah and communicate with the ruling Chiefs there ostensibly with the view of effecting some arrangement for suppressing the robberies and Piracies which have been committed of late on our Frontier. On this subject, I am directed to transmit the enclosed copy of a letter from the Superintendant of Police, and to desire that you will take charge of the Prisoner Sooey alluded to in that letter, and deliver him to the Siamese Authorities, stating the complaint and accusation brought against him, and requesting that he may not be allowed to return to his former residence near the Creean River. You will also communicate on this head with the Superintendant of Point Wellesley Province, previous to your departure.

From Kedah, after obtaining any useful information there regarding the objects of your Mission, the present views and situation of the Rajah of Ligor, and the rising influence of the Raja of Soongora, which is reported to have been much increased under the new King of Siam's favor, you may dispatch letters to either of those Chiefs, and propose a Meeting with the former at Trang or at Ligore itself. You may then proceed to Trang again, address the Rajah of Ligor, and occupy yourself in that Quarter and to the Northward, until such time as you may receive a reply from His Highness, in collecting information,

particularly as to the present relation in which the Siamese Chiefs on the Isthmus of Kraw stand to the ruling Power of Siam, whether mere feudatories exercising a certain degree of Sovereign Power, or Servants of the States implicitly bound and actually obeying the dictates of their Superiors.

In the event of your succeeding in obtaining a personal conference with the Rajah of Ligore, you will endeavour to ascertain correctly not only his views and sentiments regarding the various points to which the enclosed Papers have reference, but the views and sentiments of the Court of Siam, as far as possible, in respect to the present War, and the question whether the Siamese Authorities consider themselves as having any title or claim to the late Conquests on the Coast of Tenasserim as well as the nature of such claims, and the value they set on the recovery of Mergui and Tavoy; and you will use your best exertions to discover from the Authorities with which you confer, the reception which an Envoy from the British Government would meet with at the Court of Siam at the present juncture, pointing out to them the mutual advantage which would attend on the two Governments communicating freely, through such an Agent, their respective sentiments on the important questions connected with our invasion of the Burman Empire, and our occupation of the Ports above-mentioned.

With reference to one of the Papers herewith enclosed "Mr. Crawfurd's Notes on a Treaty with the Siamese" the Governor in Council deems it unnecessary at the present stage to discuss seriatim the points therein contained, as it must be necessary before they are distinctly entered into that you should be satisfied that the Rajah of Ligor is vested with adequate powers to conclude a Treaty on that principle, of which you will give due intimation; but there seems no objection

in case an opportunity offers to your intimating the general views entertained by the British Government as to the advantage of some arrangement corresponding therewith, taking care however to avoid the admission of any question or doubt as to our right of Possession of this Island and Dependency, which has long been considered and recognized as an integral part of the British Dominions in Asia.

The Honble. Company's Brig Jessy has been ordered to be held in readiness to convey you to such Ports as you may signify to her Commander. You will communicate with the Malay Translator to Government, through whom you will obtain appropriate Credentials and letters from the Honble. the Governor to the Authorities at Kedah, the Rajahs of Ligor, Soongora, Merdelong and Punggah, and such others as your own information and that of the Malay Translator may point out as requisite and desirable. You are also authorized to take with you a few intelligent Natives whom you may select here as likely to be useful in pursuing your enquiries, and a small Military Escort will be furnished on your requisition.

Whatever unavoidable expenses may be incurred by you on this service will be defrayed by Government on your Bill verified on honor, and an Advance of Cash to meet such demands will be issued on your application. With regard to your personal Salary and Allowances whilst employed, they will be referred for the consideration and decision of the Right Honorable the Governor General in Council; and as one of the main objects of your Appointment is the transmission of authentic information with as little delay as possible to that Authority, it is intended that you should communicate direct with the proper Officers at Calcutta, whenever your intelligence is of sufficient importance and likely to be of immediate use to the Supreme Government, transmitting Copies of your

Dispatches for the information of the Governor in Council.

I am &c., &c.

(Signed) W. S. CRACRAFT,

Acting Secy. to Govt.

Fort Cornwallis
the 8 January 1825.

CONFORMABLY to the foregoing instructions, THE SECRETARY reports that an Advance of 3000 Dollars on account of Presents and Expenses was authorized to Captain Burney.

Superintendant of Point Wellesley 14 Janry. 1825.

SUPT. of POINT WELLESLEY.

To

W. S. CRACRAFT Esquire,

Acting Secretary to Government.

Sir,

I have the honor to report, for the information of the Honorable the Governor in Council, the following intelligence, which I yesterday obtained from Kedah, and at the same time to state that my authority is good, and that I therefore deem it worthy of consideration.

It is reported that the Rajah of Soongcia who is at present residing with the King of Siam is expected at Kedah in the course of two months, and is to be accompanied by the Raja of Kota Bharu and four of the Patani Rajas. The object of his visit is to reinstate the old King and put him in entire possession of his Country. The Authorities at Kedah are aware of the intentions of the King of Siam, and have already conveyed all their property to Ligor, and are making preparations for their own departure—having collected a number of Elephants which are always kept in readiness.

I have, &c., &c.

(Signed) A. D. MAINGY,
Supt. of Point Wellesley.

Point Wellesley
the 14: January 1825.

ORDERED that Copy be furnished to the Political Agent for his information.

Factory Records, Straits Settlements, Vol. 99. pp. 160-161.

FORT CORNWALLIS—The 15 January 1825.

SUPT. of POINT WELLESLEY.

Superintendant of Point Wellesley 6 January 1825.

To

W. S. CRACRAFT Esquire
Acting Secretary to Government

Sir,

* * * * *

Police.

Since my last report, I have had occasion to bring under the special notice of the Government, several very atrocious cases of Gang robbery [which] have taken place in this Province, the principal actors in which were Pirates who landed from their Boats and made descents on different parts of this shore. I trust, however, that, whenever the Row Boat that the Honorable the Governor in Council has authorized is afloat, the recurrence of such offences will be prevented. With respect to the sanction conveyed to me in your letter of the 5th of November to establish a Military Post on Bukit Tangal, I beg leave to state that there are no Siamese in that direction, and that the Siamese Authorities at Kedah do not appear to take much interest in what occurs to the Southward of this Province. My examination and enquiry lead me to believe that the site in question is within the boundary of our Territory, and I propose therefore to avail myself of the sanction the moment the Row Boat is afloat.

* * * * *

I have &c. &c.
(Signed) A. D. MAINGY
Supt. of Point Wellesley.

Point Wellesley
the 6 January 1825.

Factory Records, Straits Settlements, Vol. 99, pp. 238-257.

FORT CORNWALLIS—The 27 January 1825.

TO THE GOVERNOR IN COUNCIL.

To the Governor General in Council at Fort William the 18 January 1825.

To The Right Honorable

WILLIAM PITT LORD AMHERST

Governor General in Council,

FORT WILLIAM.

My Lord,

We have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of a Dispatch under date the 19th November last from your Lordship in Council, and (while we express our sense of the importance of the trust confided to us in opening a negociation with the Siamese States) we beg to offer our assurance that the instructions from the Supreme Government shall regulate every step we may have occasion to take. We proceed to submit the considerations to which the knowledge of your Lordship's views and sentiments on the different questions referred to in that Dispatch has given rise to, and to report the measures we have been induced to adopt thereon.

2. From the letter addressed by Mr. Secretary Swinton to the Commander in Chief of the Forces in Ava, we are happy to observe that the opinions of your Lordship in Council coincide with those which we entertain regarding the sort of co-operation which it would be desirable to obtain from the Siamese; the powers necessary for the opening of any negociation with the Siamese Authorities were given to Lieutenant Colonel Snow rather in the hope of some opportunity afforded for developing the sentiments of those Chiefs than of procuring Military aid beyond the facility of providing Carriage, Cattle and Supplies for the Army: but as it appears that the

occupation of Mergui and Tavoy has brought on no communication, we apprehend that the suspicious Court of that Nation will still continue to watch the progress of the War without committing itself in favor of either side, unless some very encouraging opportunity of profit or plunder should arise, and at all events it will take some time before it can shake off the jealousy and apprehension which it has so many years entertained against the European character and particularly the British Government, and which an uncertainty of the direction of our future Military operations leads it to feel more powerfully at the present moment than heretofore.

Fully sensible as we are of the moderate and liberal Policy which leads to the contemplation of the cession of the late acquisitions on the Coast of Tenasserim to the Siamese, and aware of the general objections that have been urged against the extension of our Territories, we cannot but express our conviction that the motives actuating the British Government in the relinquishment of any part of those acquisitions at present, will not be fairly appreciated, or even understood by the Siamese. Their cession without some equivalent, or at least without some communication on their part will we fear be attributed to a wrong cause, and rather tend to encourage pretensions which might not otherwise be entertained. The Siamese Government appear not to have had political connection with any European Power, and are therefore quite ignorant of those forms and rules which civilized Nations observe in respect to each other: misled by an idea of their own power, and erroneously ascribing the too easy cession of those Countries to our inability to keep them, they might be induced even to take a hostile part against us, for we believe that no Idea of future, though certain consequences, would prevent their giving way to the temptation of taking immediate advantage of any opening

that might offer for their own aggrandizement while our Troops were otherwise engaged.

It is with diffidence that we enter into any discussion of the arguments which may be adduced in favor of the retention of those places, as they must no doubt have been fully considered by your Lordship in Council; but we trust the motive will be our excuse for the expression of the opinions entertained by us on that important question [and will not] be considered as an uncalled for intrusion. The resources of those Countries in our possession during the War, we are led to believe, would materially facilitate the provision of Carriage, Cattle and Supplies for our Army, and thus contribute in a great degree towards the prosecution of the War—an advantage of which we should probably be deprived, if they fell into the hands of the Siamese.

Their permanent retention in the manner suggested by Mr. Crawfurd, and their occupation by British Troops, would, by establishing a secure footing, and opening an entrance into their Territory in case of need, overawe both Burmans and Siamese, and thus oppose a check against future aggression of either of those States. We are aware of the inconvenience of being in contact with the Siamese Authorities, but we fear no arrangement can now prevent that state of things. Of the impolicy of involving ourselves in complicated Treaties and Political arrangements with these Eastern Nations we are equally sensible. We are fully impressed with the belief that no Treaties or Agreements would bind them if an opportunity were offered of deriving immediate tho' temporary advantage by their infringement. It appears to us that as the British Interest in respect to those States can be maintained only by the strength of our Position, by the known power and respectability of the British Government, we must place more reliance on their fears than their good faith for the prevention of

aggression, and assume the most commanding Situation which the progress of a just and necessary war has placed within our reach.

6. As far as the question rests on the financial resources and value of those Countries, we regret that our information does not enable us to speak with any degree of certainty. A correct opinion on that head could only be formed after minute enquiry and research. The trade however appears to have been considerable, and one general observation applies to them in common with other of our more Eastern Establishments, that the security and protection afforded by the British Government would very soon draw to them an industrious Population by whose means the wealth and resources would be increased in a degree of which they would never be susceptible, under the unsettled circumstances in which they have hitherto been placed.

7. The above observations are intended generally to apply to all the late acquisitions on the Coast of Tenasserim, but in respect to one of them, Mergui, our Records enable us to speak with more certainty and confidence. In the Letter of Instructions from the Honorable the Court of Directors on the first Establishment of this Government, the occupation of a convenient Harbour on the Eastern side of the Bay of Bengal was pointed out as an object of primary importance. Achéen was contemplated in the first instance, failing in that, Mergui was pointed out as the next convenient position. The objects in view were first, the Establishment of a place of refit and security for our own Shipping in the time of War; secondly, the exclusion of a foreign European Enemy from a position which afforded him extensive means of annoyance to our trade. The result of all attempts to establish a Port at Acheen will be found on the Records of the Supreme Government, any further

measures for that end are now precluded by the late Treaty with the Netherlands Government, and the objects are now only attainable at Mergui. It is well known that during the whole of the last War, French Privateers and even regular Ships of War made Mergui a place of constant resort, principally during the severity of the N. E. Monsoon they found means of outfit and supply, and were enabled at the opening of the fair season to commence their depredations on any part of the Bay of Bengal. So long as Mergui and adjacent Islands remain in the possession of a Native Power, our Trade must be subjected to the same risk in case of War with a foreign European or American Power—on the other hand, if in our possession a secure Harbour is afforded to our Shipping in the most convenient position for the navigation of the Bay whenever the danger of the Seas or an Enemy may render shelter advisable. However convenient this Island may be for concentrating the trade of the Northern Part of the Island of Sumatra, of the Malay Peninsula and the adjacent Islands, it is too far to the S. E. to be used as a place of resort for any Ships except such as may be bound through this Strait. Those considerations, therefore, mainly induced the recommendation of this Government for obtaining possession of Junk Ceylon, the object of which would be fully attained by the retention of Mergui and its Islands as British Possessions. In a Commercial point of view, much may be said in favor of the retention of Mergui. The River is understood to be navigable to a considerable distance up the Country, and thro' that channel a great portion of the Production of Siam once found their outlet on the Bay of Bengal. Looking forward to the additional security that will be afforded to our Shipping, and the probable increase of the general trade that will result, we trust we shall stand excused for dwelling thus far on the importance of the acquisition.

8. We regret exceedingly that the very limited extent of our Military Establishment, and the impracticability from our insular position of adding to its strength by any local arrangement, precludes the possibility of our offering that Military aid, which it would be no less our duty than anxious desire to afford in furtherance of the object we have so much at heart, but if by any means the Local Corps of the Island could be strengthened, either by recruits from Bengal, or the eventual appropriation of this description of Force now understood to be employed at Bencoolen, the regular and more efficient Troops now employed on the Island might be spared for the occupation of Mergui for a time at least.

9. In respect to the Memorandum of Mr. Crawfurd to a Treaty with Siam, we have only a few observations to offer—that Document seems generally in accordance with the opinion we have already expressed. The restoration of the King of Kedah by our influence, and under our protection is unquestionably a most desirable object, as interposing a friendly power between us and the Siamese, and not to be lost sight of, should a favorable opening occur in the course of our negociation; as connected with this subject, we have the honor to forward Copy of Paper of Intelligence by the Superintendant of Wellesley Province, from which hopes may be entertained of the Rajah's restoration under the change of local Interests therein anticipated, and although he would in that case owe the recovery of his Government not to us but to a Siamese Chief, yet adverting to the period the King has found a safe residence in this Island, and to the knowledge he must have acquired of the nature of our Administration; it may be presumed that the King will continue favorably disposed towards us, and the change however brought about will be in the end beneficial. If

ultimately determined on it will be as easy to negociate for his confirmation as his restoration.

10. In respect to the Policy of arresting the extension of Siamese Dominions over the Malayan Peninsula—it would probably as contemplated by Mr. Crawfurd be a part not easily got over as an Article of Treaty with the Court of Siam. The importance of such a stipulation is in some degree affected by the changes about to take place on the Peninsula. The permanent Establishment of British Authority at Malacca, the intercourse that will naturally arise between the Government and the Malay States, the general dislike entertained against Siamese rule, added to their own means of defence will probably arrest the course of Conquest in that quarter without any specific Treaty.

11. As to the extension of our Territory adjoining this Island, if such were desirable, it would in all probability be easier to attain it thro' the medium of the King of Kedah than by direct negociation at the Capital of Siam. At all events we cannot consider it advisable to discuss any Article implying a doubt as to our right of Possession of this Island. The state of dependance to which Kedah had been reduced prior to the exclusion of the King is well known, but it is equally notorious that at the time the Island was ceded to us by the former King, the triennial presentation of the Bunga Mas, and that made to Ava as well as Siam, was the only mark of homage, and which does not certainly convey to the receiver any portion of the Sovereign rights of the other. The subsequent acts of violence committed by the Rajah of Ligor against the King of Kedah, we are disposed to view rather as the unjustifiable aggressions of a powerful upon a weak and defenceless State than the authorized exercise of legitimate supremacy and as the Island

and Dependencies have been long considered an integral part of the British Dominions of India, it seems to us to be too late to allow the question of right to be raised in any shape whatever.

12. In as far however as the local objects enumerated in reference to the immediate interests of this Government are to be balanced against the cession of our acquisition on the Coast of Tenasserim, we deem it our duty to state that in the event of your Lordship in Council determining on the expediency of retaining Tavoy and Mergui, as affording us a firm footing on that Coast, and the consequent means of holding in check any hostile intentions of either Burmans and Siamese, the latter object must in our opinion decidedly preponderate in the scale. It was only indeed under contemplation of the cession having been at all events determined on, that we ventured to submit the local Interests of this Government as forming an equivalent.

13. We now proceed to report to your Lordship in Council the measures we have adopted for collecting some positive information respecting the existing views and sentiments of the Court of Siam, as to the present War, the nature of the title or claim if any which it considers itself to possess to our late Conquests, and the value it sets on Mergui and Tavoy.

14. For these objects, and for establishing a channel of communication on every other subject of political importance in the neighbouring Countries, in anticipation of the eventual Mission of an Agent to the Capital of Siam, we have appointed Captain Burney of the 25th Regiment Bengal Native Infantry, Political Agent to the Siamese States. The favorable sentiments of your Lordship in Council as conveyed in Mr. Secrety. Swinton's letter dated the 19 November,

as well as our own confidence in the zeal, intelligence and extensive knowledge possessed by Captain Burney, encourage us to hope for much benefit from that Officer's deputation.

15. We have the honor to enclose Copy of a Minute recorded by our President, and of the Instructions with which Captain Burney has been furnished, and in which he is directed to communicate immediately with the Supreme Government on the objects of his Mission, as well as with this Presidency. We have not considered it advisable to depute him as an Envoy to the Court of Siam, conceiving that much information remains to be acquired before a step of that decisive nature could be attended with a probability of success, and also considering that the immediate authority of the Right Honorable the Governor General in Council, by Credentials granted to the Envoy, would be requisite, to impress the Court of Siam with a proper degree of respect and regard to the propositions he might be directed to bring forward.

16. The Political Service with which Capt. Burney has been now charged being of a general nature, and under the authority and subject to the confirmation and approval of your Lordship in Council, we have not fixed the rate of personal remuneration to the Political Agent, but have determined to leave the same to be fixed and adjusted by the Supreme Government, defraying from the Treasury of this Presidency the necessary expenses which may be incurred in prosecution of the objects referred to in the letter of Instructions.

We have &c., &c.

(Signed) R. FULLERTON

„ W. A. CLUBLEY.

Fort Cornwallis
The 18 : January 1825.

ORDERED that Copies of the Letters from and to the Supreme Government, and of the Instructions to the Political Agent be transmitted for the information of the Resident at Singapore.

Lieutt. Low.

READ a letter from Lieutenant Low, requesting supply of Rations and Cash if detained in Tenasserim.

THE SECRETARY reports that Duplicate of the Instructions directing Lieutenant Low to return to the Presidency, unless his services were required by Sir A. Campbell, was forwarded to Mergui.

Resident at Singapore 6 January 1825.

RESIDENT AT SINGAPORE.

Service

To

W. CRACRAFT, Esq.
Secretary to the Govt.
Prince of Wales Island.

Sir,

I have the honor herewith to submit to the Honorable the Governor in Council, copy of a Dispatch of this day's date addressed to the Supreme Government.

I have &c. &c.

(Signed) J. CRAWFURD
Resident

Singapore
6 January 1825.

Enclosure.

To

GEO. SWINTON Esq.
Secretary to the Govt.
Fort William.

Pol: Dept:

Sir,

I have the honor to report that authentic Accounts have been received from Siam down to the 3d. of December, when everything in that Country remained tranquil. The new King had declared the European trade free, and professed to forego all interference in the transactions of the foreign Merchant. The English Traders who had recently visited Bangkok have been treated with much attention One Ship belonging to them had already sailed, and two more which were loading are shortly expected at this Port.

On Political questions, it has been found extremely difficult to obtain any information which can be relied on. It appears, however, tolerably well ascertained that a Siamese force amounting it is said, to 8,000 men has marched in the direction of the Burman Provinces on the Bay of Bengal, with a view, it may be presumed, of taking advantage of our recent conquests at Tavoy and Mergui, and seizing such portions of the Burman territory as it may be found convenient for the Siamese Government to lay claim to.

I have &c. &c.

(Signed) J. CRAWFURD,
Resident.

Singapore
6 Janry. 1825.

A True Copy

(Signed) J. CRAWFURD
Resident

THE SECRETARY reports that Copy was furnished to the Political Agent to the Siamese States.

00030457

Digitized with financial assistance from
Shri Brihad Bhartiya Samaj
on 31 October, 2019